

THE *Country* GUIDE



FEBRUARY, 1949

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THE *Country* GUIDE



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NEW FEATURES

We are trying to make it better every issue. This month's Guide comes to its readers with added improvements. Page 44 introduces a new department for an important age group. Then there's a bigger helping for women readers including a new fashion service on page 71. We hope you will like it.

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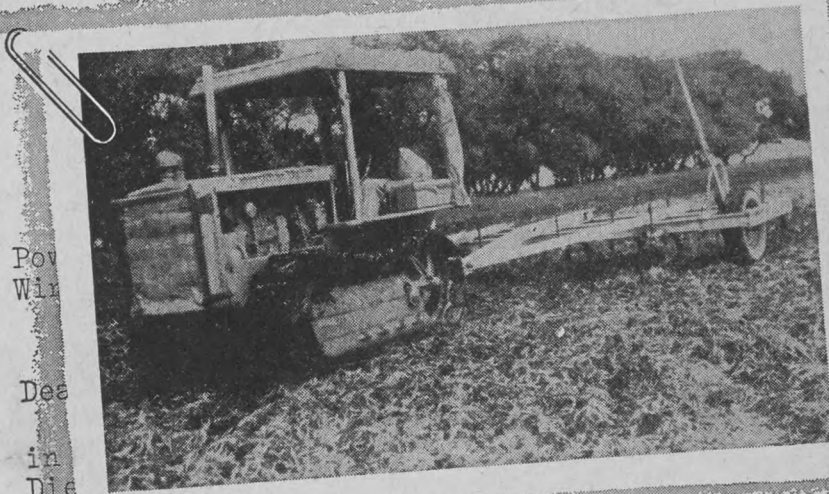
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"total repairs... under \$10 per year"

Lin. Pettinger, Elgin, Manitoba

Canadian farmer Lin. Pettinger recently wrote his "Caterpillar" Dealer about a Diesel D2 purchased new by his father in 1939. His report—based on accurate records—gives the dollar-and-cents meaning of "Caterpillar" engineering and manufacture. Below is a copy of his letter and enclosed snapshot.



literature on the new D2.

To date, the D2's Diesel engine has never required an overhaul. The hour meter now stands at 6277 and, between 240 hour oil changes, the oil consumption is very moderate.

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I do not write to boast about our D2 but to let you know of the wonderful performance of this tractor.

Thanking you for a great farm tractor, I remain

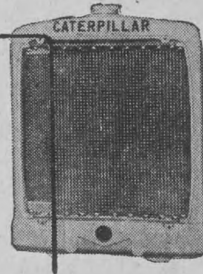
Yours very truly,
(signed) Lin. Pettinger

N.B. Enclosed is a picture of my D2 pulling a 14-foot chisel-type cultivator.



Final drive seals on "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractors are self-aligning, self-adjusting and self-lubricating. The sealing action is not dependent upon high pressure for effectiveness. Copper bellows-type seals, shown here, and chromium-plated steel washers provide positive protection for final drive gears. Oil is retained—water, dust and mud are kept out.

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Under The Peace Tower

WE now come to the case of the pregnant mouse. It is perfectly true that parliament is opening, and there would seem to be some mighty important doings going on. But perhaps it will do our readers just as much good to consider the plight of the lady mouse about to have little mice. It involves two government departments, namely Veterans' Affairs and Health and Welfare; it ties in with a previous Country Guide story; and it also introduces one member of parliament.

A while back, this column had a story about the man who at 51 was deemed too old to carry feed to mice. Because of the fuss raised here in Ottawa, it was alleged that the 51-year-old man finally got the job.

The only flaw in my story was that I attributed the lapse to Veterans' Affairs, whereas the people who turned down—or were alleged to have turned down the 51-year-old vet were National Health and Welfare. So the blame should not fall on D.V.A. at all, but belongs, if it belongs anywhere, on Health and Welfare.

THIS nonsense of saying a man was too old at 51 to carry feed to mice caused me to write a story about it. I had in mind that a good many farmers in the West do something harder than carry food to mice. Even admitting that the job required a man to carry 50-pound bags of flour up one or maybe two flights of stairs, the fact remains that farmers who are 50 plus have heavier work than that. Actually, however, before my story went West, I had been assured that a younger man, temporarily installed in the job, had been replaced by the 51-year-old veteran.

Meanwhile, farmers out West came round to John Diefenbaker, Prog.-Con. M.P. for Lake Centre, and asked him about this "heavy" work involved in feeding mice. In due course, Mr. Diefenbaker relayed to me, the news that a good many people in the West must read The Country Guide.

Then after hearing from Mr. Diefenbaker, I began to get disquieting rumors. What I learned was that the 51-year-old man was never really hired, but instead, Health and Welfare took a younger man.

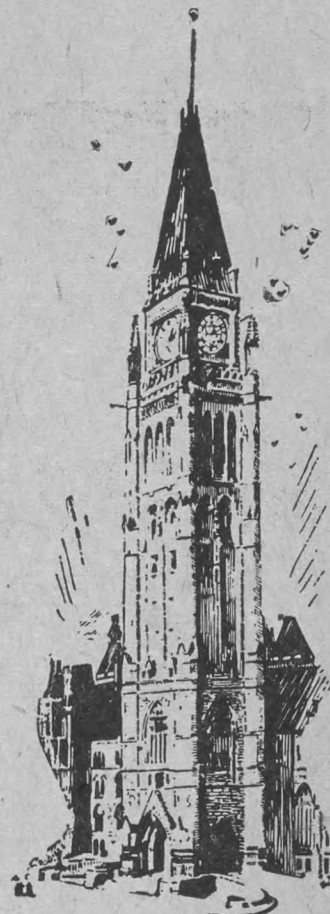
Veterans' Affairs were not able to state positively when I got in touch with them, but they passed me along to somebody in Health and Welfare. In Ottawa, you get passed around quite a bit before you finally land the right place. It helps to make this capital interesting.

I discovered that they had classified this 51-year-old as having a double hernia.

"Of course," they said to me, "a man with a double hernia could not do the work."

Maybe not.

But they did make a real search for a man who possessed the exceptional qualifications to carry feed for mice. This, I would have you understand, was no ordinary chore. This needed a man who had what it takes. Examinations were held, and in due course, four candidates presented themselves, after which a man from Oka, Quebec,



31 years of age, was the lucky man. So as it turns out, the 51-year-old man never did get the job, but a 31-year-old veteran did.

I then encountered a very sympathetic man in Health and Welfare. I had the idea by then that perhaps this person had got a little disturbed about the publicity his ill-starred attempts to appoint a mouse-feeder had received. But he assured me that this was an unfortunate case, and it did require a man who did not have a double hernia.

This business of carrying feed to mice means that you have to take big bags up flights of stairs, and then clean out the cages, and take the droppings. Now if these droppings had been from elephants, one could understand that the job might tax the strength of a man. But mice—well, why go into it. You could do the work with a sharp end of an eye dropper, you'd think.

Well, as it turns out, this is not only rugged work, but it calls for considerable delicacy. I'll tell you how I know; the man told me. Said he:

"You know A PREGNANT MOUSE HAS TO BE HANDLED WITH CONSIDERABLE CARE."

THAT did it. I thought of the thousands of prairie women who had given birth to children without help of any kind. I recalled stories I had heard of the early days out West, where the doctor couldn't get through, and where women died before their time because they had no attention. I thought of all the healthy young kids that are born with a minimum of care. Then I compared this with our ever-loving government caring so very tenderly for a pregnant mouse.

Now I'll be the first to admit that we need experiments, I'll agree that what we learn from mice helps us cure humans, and I'll string along with the general dictum that a pregnant mouse needs the best care a benevolent government can give it. But I still say that a man of 31 has no special tenderness that a man of 51 hasn't.

Well, as the result of the
(Turn to page 76)

A. Rose



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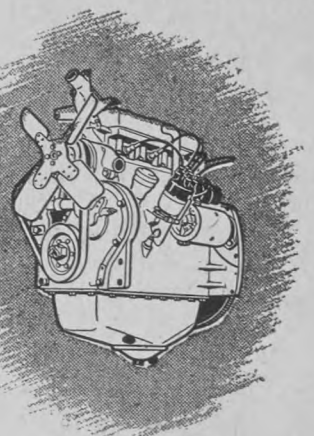
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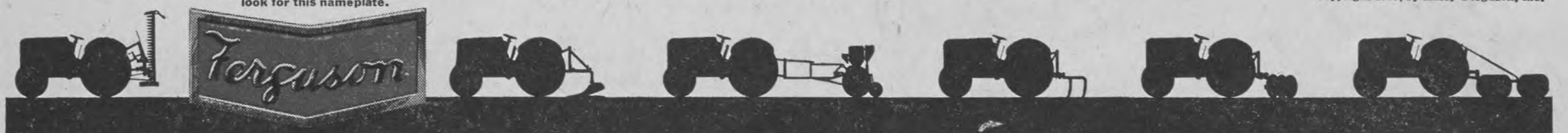
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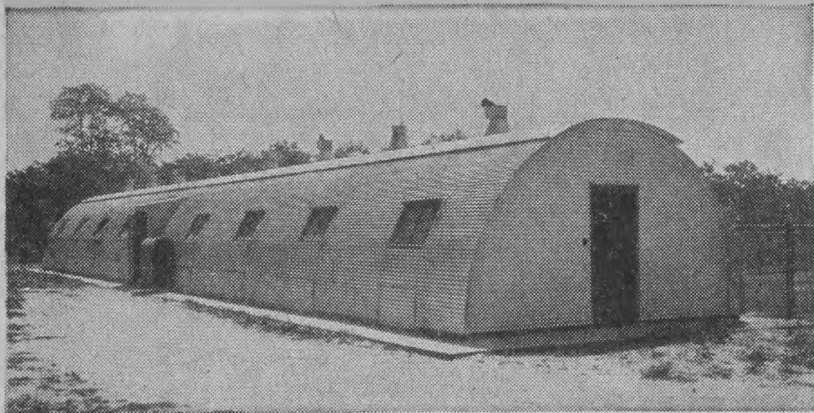
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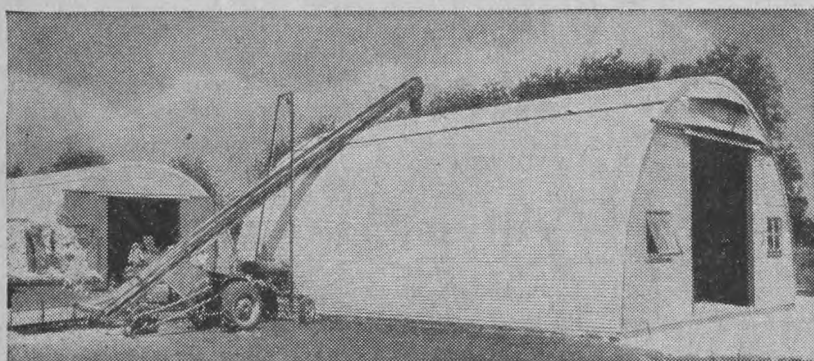
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NEW HORIZONS

for the

Canadian Federation of Agriculture

Saskatchewan farm lands as seen from the air.

[Photo: Nat. Film Board]

I HEARD a man of fairly wide agricultural experience express this opinion the other day. He said: "No generalizations and few unqualified opinions about agriculture are safe. In any group of a dozen men, almost any positive and general statement is fairly sure to be opposed; and no two of your critics are likely to use the same arguments against you. The only safe plan is to be as forthright as your critics and to brace yourself against everything from mechanization to the shorter catechism. At the least it will be exciting, and at the most you will learn something about the phenomenon of food production in an industrial society."

Well, one comes away from an annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (held this year in Saskatoon, January 25-26), thankful to be alive. One feels as though one had jumped into the last of a series of violently agitated sieves in an immense thought-sorting machine, built on the principle of a seed cleaner and had survived. If one could become a resolution, equipped with "whereases" and "be-it-resolveds," the analogy would be perfect, because the Federation is in reality a thought-sorting organization.

Imagine J. Jones, farmer, attending a small meeting at home, and having an idea that something should be done about any one of a multitude of problems. He moves a resolution that it be done and it goes into the hopper of the democratic thought-sorting machine. If the majority of those present at the meeting agree with him, his thought, embodied in the resolution, goes on to the next sieve level, perhaps the district meeting of a provincial organization. Successful there, it is next

carried to the provincial meeting, and if not screened out, reaches the provincial Federation of Agriculture. If sustained there and the province is in western Canada, it eventually reaches the Western Conference, a further mechanism designed to sort out ideas before presenting those that survive, to the annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

Perhaps a hundred resolutions will reach the Western Conference, each started on its way by a J. Jones living somewhere on a western farm; and perhaps only twenty-five will pass through this screen. These, joined with another twenty or so originating with other J. Joneses in eastern Canada will be screened again at the annual meeting of the C.F.A. But, alas, the pure thought started on its innocent way by J. Jones has still one last screen to survive. Here the agitation is more violent, the test more severe. Any thought-carrying resolution able to survive must be rated as the purest form of farm opinion, representative of the entire farming industry. It is the result of final scrutiny by the Board of Directors, the last and the final word as to C.F.A. policy, pronounced by twenty-one top-ranking leaders of Canadian agriculture. When,

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture establishes a coarse grains policy and screens farm opinion on many subjects.

after every test known to the majority of these leaders, the little thought of J. Jones finally emerges, dressed in authority and with its face shining with the light of virtue and self-confidence, it is ready for presentation to the highest tribunal of all the people—the government. Then, and then only, the farmers of Canada have spoken—with a single voice more resonant and authoritative than that of farmers in any other country in the world, except perhaps, in England and Wales.

LET'S consider coarse grains. For years Canada has had a Canadian Wheat Board, at present selling all the wheat of the country, but at times controlling only such wheat as was voluntarily delivered to it. Nearly all, if not all farm organizations in Canada have come to think well of this method of selling wheat, since it treats all growers alike and removes speculative dangers from the individual grower. Why not, then, extend the same principle of equitable selling to coarse grains? J. Jones got that idea and from many places came resolutions of similar import: "Resolved that all coarse grains should be marketed through the Wheat Board." Wonderful idea!

Then the screening process went to work. The C.F.A. represents all of Canada, and in eastern Canada and in British Columbia, where they buy rather than produce coarse grains, it looked like a good idea to support, provided the peaks of feed grain prices could be levelled out for them, as well as the valleys for the grain producers. The Dominion Government recognized the growing demand and promptly acted. They said, in effect: "Wheat is

(Turn to page 72)



Canning Vegetables

IN THE PEMBINA TRIANGLE

Charles Walkof, who has played a part in this development, writes about

CANNING vegetables commercially is important business in south-central Manitoba. Visitors to this district, the Pembina Triangle, are impressed by the canning possibilities as well as by the various special farm crops being grown. Included, also, are fruits and other garden products. That is why the Pembina Triangle is sometimes known as "The Corn and Apple Belt of the Prairies."

Sweet corn was the most important canning crop in 1948. Approximately 5,000 acres were grown, involving a production of 12,000 to 14,000 tons of green corn. The average yield was two to three tons per acre. A number of farmers obtained yields of four and even five tons per acre. The price ranged from \$20 to \$22 per ton, depending on quality.

The important feature of growing sweet corn in Manitoba is that peak production is reached early in the season. In 1948 one Manitoba canner delivered a carload of new crop canned corn in Vancouver and had another on its way by the time Ontario and Alberta canners were beginning their corn season. The reason for this is that the hot days and the warm nights in July and August encourage rapid maturity.

Manitoba canners benefited also by the adversities of eastern Canadian weather in 1947 and 1948. Floods and then drought cut volume deliveries of Ontario canning crops. This created a shortage and boosted prices. At the same time the Manitoba weather could hardly have been more



The author with specimens of his own variety, Sugar Prince.

favorable for vegetable growing than it was during the past two years.

CORN is not a new crop for south-central Manitoba. Grain corn has been grown successfully for a number of years. The yield and quality of the grain corn have been high. In 1948 yields of 50 to 60 bushels per acre were not unusual. One corn buyer alone purchased up to 85,000 bushels from Pembina farmers. Consequently, when the canners first approached these farmers regarding sweet corn production, it was no hardship to change over to this new crop.

Manitoba's new canning crop district is located on the eastern slopes of the Pembina escarpment. It is estimated that 200 to 300 sections of the finest black loam lies in this area which is referred to as the Pembina Triangle. The towns of Morden and Winkler are in the heart of this rich garden district. Actually, it is on the western edge of the vast pre-historic Lake Agassiz which once covered much of the province.

The sheltering position of the Pembina Hills on the west side of the Triangle undoubtedly moderates the climate of this area. The hills vary from 300 to 400 feet high. Fruits as well as vegetables thrive in the sheltered position of the Pembina Triangle. Various kinds of apples, plums, apricots and cherries do well at Morden. Small fruits such as strawberries,

raspberries and currants are also notably successful.

Tomatoes have yielded 14 to 16 tons of ripe fruit per acre near Morden and Winkler. In contrast, early fall frosts, at times, have curtailed gardening activities on top of the Pembina escarpment at Thornhill and Darlingford and also 3 miles east of Morden, while the Pembina Triangle continued free for another three and four weeks.

The vegetable canning industry is represented in this favored garden district by two companies and a co-operative. The latter, known as The Pembina Co-operative Cannery, is located at the village of Reinland, 10 miles south of Winkler. This co-operative was the first to pioneer in vegetable canning in this district. Much credit is due to men like Peter Redekopp, M. J. Hamm, J. Zacharius and H. Giesbrecht, who carried on in the face of many seemingly insurmountable difficulties and technical problems of the new venture.

THE Pembina Co-op. Cannery had a meagre beginning. During the first season all equipment was hand-operated. It was housed in a one-room frame building. Moreover, in the first season most of the labor and corn required for canning were donated. Local capital provided the necessary finances. During wet weather, when other farm work lagged, volunteers seldom failed to help at the cannery. The spirit of co-operation is considered by many to be of the finest order in the village of Reinland.

Progress has been substantial at the Pembina Co-operative Cannery since its inception four years ago. The buildings now include a large warehouse in addition to the boiler and processing rooms. A small electric power plant to drive the various huskers, kernel cutters, batch mixers and can sealers, as well as for general lighting, has been installed. A large dugout equipped with filter and pumping station provides ample water supplies. The production capacity of the cannery has increased from its initial 2,500 cans per season to a reported 250,000 in 1948. A crew of 25 local girls and five men operate the cannery "around the clock" when sweet corn is in season. Since the cannery is quite distant from the railroad, all its production and also supplies, are conveyed by truck. Winnipeg is the main market.

The people of Reinland, mostly Mennonite by religion, make good use of their cannery. Following the vegetable canning season, large quantities of meat and lard are canned for European relief. In 1947, 419 head of cattle and 15 sheep were processed for this purpose. In 1948, the count was 234 head of cattle, 95 sheep and a quantity of hogs and poultry. This represented eight railroad cars of food. All the animals and most of the labor for processing were donated.

In contrast, the company canneries, namely, Prairie Canners Ltd., at Winkler, and Canada Packers, at St. Boniface, operate on a different basis. The processing capacities are greater than that of the co-operative. The acreage involved is also much larger than at Reinland. Trucks haul the raw product to the Canada Packers plant in St. Boniface. This may involve trucking 80 to 90 miles one way.

The advantages of locating the cannery in the city are several: (1) technical machinery men are near at hand when required; (2) railroad services close by can provide critically needed supplies in a matter of hours; (3) high quality water, with a

(Continued from page 42)

John J. Elias, left, and C. Gintar checking a load of sweet corn at the Winkler Cannery.



MANITOBA ATTACKS

By

H. S.

FRY

Leafy Spurge

The tiny leafy spurge must be cultivated out frequently for results.

THERE are no weeds in nature. Man made every last one of them. Moreover, he probably began creating them the very first time he started to stir the soil about the seeds he had planted.

When we say that there are no weeds in nature, we mean of course, that there is no single group of plants in the plant kingdom which can be called weeds everywhere they may be found. They are weeds solely because they interfere with what man tries to do with the soil. Nature has provided innumerable species and varieties of plants, at least some of which will grow in almost any part of the earth. The birds, the wind, running water, man, and other animals, carry seed from place to place. Plants also have many different ways of maintaining themselves in a soil once the first one of a species has become established. They are as likely to appear in an undesirable, as in a desirable place, and the simplest definition of a weed, perhaps the best, is that it is a plant out of place. Even garden plants, desirable as they may be, sometimes escape to the fields and roadsides and become weeds.

It is probably correct to say that the twentieth century farmer, relative to his time and place, is no farther ahead in the control of weeds than was his earlier prototype of 2,000 or 3,000 years ago. True, we have individual farmers whose fields, and perhaps fence rows, are clean. We have efficient implements and power to pull them and we have chemical weed sprays and dust, with efficient machines and airplanes to distribute them. On the other hand, our crops go to market heavy with dockage caused by weeds. Our roadsides are sometimes masses of uncut weeds going to seed. I have seen whole quarter sections given over to a solid mass of sow thistle in bloom, and large fields of alleged summerfallow practically covered with Russian thistle going to seed. It is not unusual for individual fields to be partly or wholly stooked with a fork, because of thistles. Indeed, it is questionable whether our earliest farming ancestors, who used all of the available labor of the family to control weeds, ever permitted these conditions as frequently as they occur today. Lack of weed control must be credited with much of the responsibility for the relatively low efficiency in the production of consumable foods per man or per acre, in modern agriculture.

BUT there is some hope that we will do better. The tempo and, therefore, the risk and the responsibility of agriculture have increased with the rapid advance of mechanization and the more generally recognized need for food throughout the world. Democracy too, is being perfected, precedent by precedent; and today the rights of individuals in a democratic society are being both limited and extended in the interests of all. They are being extended, because it is no longer considered right that individuals or groups should trample rough shod over others in pursuit of their own selfish purposes; and they are being limited, because the



This farm is growing good crops for the owner, even while the municipality directs spurge control on it.

individual may no longer do as he likes, even with his own, where others might be injured.

But what, it may be asked, has democracy to do with weeds? The relationship was demonstrated during the war in Great Britain to an extent never before experienced in any Anglo-Saxon country. British farmers were no longer permitted to grow what they liked, or to be as inefficient as they liked. If, after having been given due warning, they still failed to live up to the requirements of society, they were dispossessed of their farms. In western Canada, something of this nature has happened in connection with weed control. In both Alberta and Manitoba, it is now possible under the law, to say to the man who will not or can not control the weeds on his own farm: "You may no longer choose what crops you will grow on this piece of land. The state (the municipality) is stepping in to clean up this weedy farm, which is a menace to the community."

One wonders sometimes, how many farmers in any province have read their own provincial weed law. Owners of weedy farms especially, might be surprised to know what the law can do to them for disregarding the interests of the whole community. I had occasion recently, to

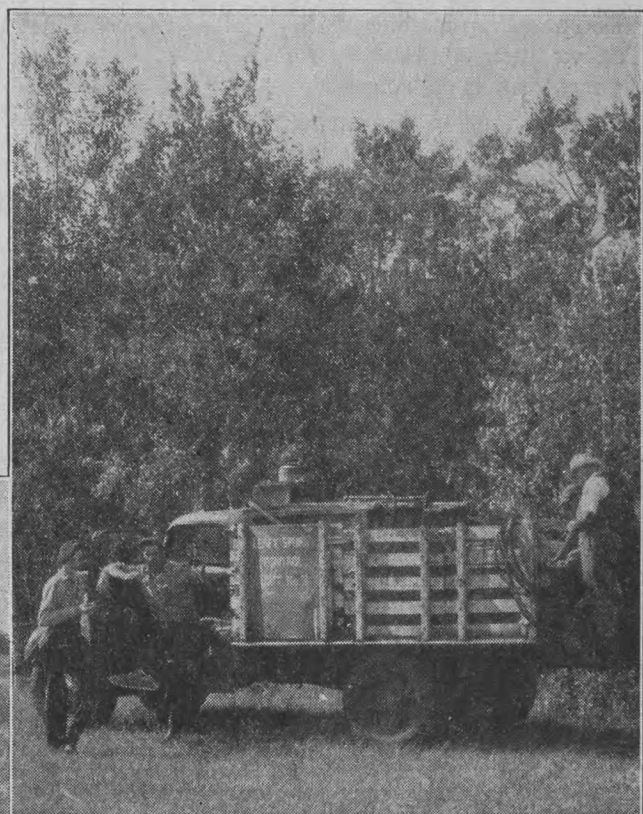
There are teeth in the Noxious Weeds Act, which already have bitten in seventy municipalities.



see for myself what the Manitoba Noxious Weeds Act can do and has done. The results to date have proved effectively that weedy farms result from inefficiency rather than from efficiency in farming, and that even the worst weeds can be controlled in a practical manner.

WHAT has happened is that 70 of the 100 municipalities in the province are co-operating with the Manitoba Department of Agriculture for weed control and have been formed into 18 weed control units. Special attention has been directed by the department and the municipal authorities to the really bad weeds, and in particular, to leafy spurge, perhaps the most important noxious weed in Manitoba.

The campaign takes two forms. On the greater number of the approximately 2,000 Manitoba farms which carry some infestation of leafy spurge, only small patches may have been taken over by the weed. Control here is a matter of spraying with a chemical, which though expensive, is sure of death, but throws the land so treated out of farming use for a year or two. For this purpose some of the co-operating municipalities have their own weed spraying machines. They operate on individual farms, but also patrol the roadsides. Near Carman I saw one section of roadside levelled off and seeded to grass, which two or three years before had been a solid mass of leafy spurge. Later, we saw the municipal spray outfit operating on the roadside; and I learned from H. A. Craig, of the Manitoba Weeds Commission, that this municipality (Dufferin) would use about 80,000 pounds of chemical in one year. The cost of the chemical (9.3 cents (Turn to page 28)

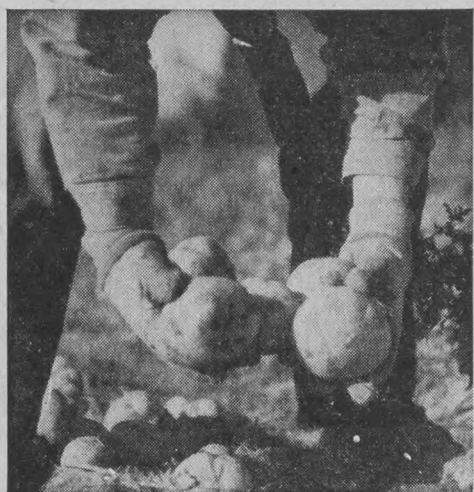


A municipal spray crew waits for water as it operates on roadside patches.

H. A. Craig listens while the careful municipal operator reports progress on an "occupied" estate farm.

SETTLING FOR Surplus Spuds

By R. D. COLQUETTE



CROP surpluses are cropping up again. The bee keepers would be in clover, where the bees got the honey, if consumers would absorb the delectable confection as fast as the bees have been manufacturing it these last couple of years. The Old Country isn't taking the apples of Annapolis any more and Nova Scotia growers are sabotaging apple trees, saving the varieties that please the Canadian eye and tickle the Canadian palate and sacrificing the long keepers and non-descripts which used to go in ship loads to London and Liverpool. Corn belt farmers shucked so much corn last fall that there aren't hogs and steers enough to refine it into pork and beef and there is a \$600 million corn surplus. To consume the surplus they will grow more hogs, which may later mean a hog surplus. And a bumper crop of potatoes, from Charlottetown to Hollywood, has flushed more complications than there are ways of cooking the esculent, farinaceous tuber.

In Canada the chief specialized potato growing areas, and the hardest hit, are in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. This explains why the provision for taking care of the surplus, made by the Dominion government a while back, applies only to these two provinces. The Old World had a good crop; potatoes are off the ration list. The other outlets are Newfoundland, Central Canada, the West Indies, South America and, until it was fenced off, the American market.

Washington, of course, imposes a tariff on potatoes. The regular impost is 75 cents per hundredweight. But from Canada the first million bushels of table stock and the first 2½ million bushels of certified seed stock get in under a tariff of half that amount, or 37½ cents per hundredweight. Above this quota, which was raised a million bushels at the Geneva trade conference, the regular tariff is collected.

Now comes in the major complication. Uncle Sam, out of the goodness of his heart and the pocketbooks of his nephews and nieces, has placed a floor under potato prices. And prices are lying flat on their back on the floor. It is not an even floor to lie on. It varies from month to month and from state to state. To accommodate the table of figures showing what the floor price is at a given time and place, a full typewritten sheet is needed. It is worked out on a parity basis; American farmers are strong on parities. This season potato prices are 90 per cent of parity; next season they will be 60 per cent, unless there are more little potatoes this year than last. Glancing over the sheet I noticed that the December floor price for Maine, famous for potatoes and Republicans, was \$3.05 per cwt. for No. 1 table stock in bags loaded on cars. Across the line in New Brunswick, but in the same potato belt, the growers were getting less than a dollar.

What happened was that when N.B. potatoes began to roll out of the ground last fall they started

rolling across the border. And how they did roll! The P.E.I. crop was late and the Island growers didn't get in on the movement to the same extent. One factor was motor transport. Those great powerful trucks, which can carry a carload almost, would come up from Boston and other populous potato eating centres with goods for Maine state merchants. Then they would slip across the border. The N.B. grower would see one of them squeezing through his gate. The driver would climb out, the pockets of his jeans bulging with folding currency and there was a chance to dispose of 400 hundred-pound sacks and be on the receiving end of a transfer of \$800 or more from one pocket to another.

THE first thing Washington, D.C., and Hartland and other N.B. shipping points knew, the quota was pretty well used up. Even seed stock was going over. Prices in Canada were being supported by the U.S. potato price floor while, for a time, potatoes actually stopped moving out of Maine. Then American potato growers let out a yell that registered on the ear drums of Washington without any aid-to-hearing device. Whereupon Washington started thinking in terms of an embargo on Canadian potatoes.

But these two countries have been quite neighborly for some time now and they weren't going to make an international incident out of a few million bushels of potatoes. So they got their feet together under a table to see what could be done about it. The upshot was that Canada agreed to hold up this business of unloading its surplus potatoes on or under the potato price floor of her neighbor. It

might even be uncharitably hinted that this country agreed to do the dirty work. To export potatoes to the United States you have to have a permit and you can't get a permit. Not on eating potatoes. With seed potatoes it is different. The Americans want our vigorous, northern grown seed which gives them better yields, especially in the southern States, so that they will have a better chance of having another surplus. But the seed trade will be strictly regulated. Certified seed can be sold only to certified seed potato dealers so that it will go into the ground and not crowd American potatoes off the American dinner plate.

When Canadian potato growers found their U.S. market cut off it was their turn to yell. Potatoes are not like wheat, that can be stored until a drought or a war comes along to take care of a surplus. When there are enough new potatoes to go around old potatoes are good for nothing except hog feed and by that time the hogs are getting a bit snooty about them too. This time it was Ottawa that was on the receiving end of the long distance telephone and it was Ottawa's turn to do something for the Canadian growers. What they did was simply this: The first of next April the inspectors will begin measuring up the potatoes on New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island farms in the car-lot shipping areas. It will probably take a couple of months to take stock in the bins, cellars and pits. Then the federal government, which has developed a wonderful technique for channelling money into its treasury, will write checks against the treasury for the unmarketed potatoes. The rate will be \$1.15 per hundredweight for potatoes still on hand and the growers will still own the potatoes.

What will it cost? That depends. I talked with Deputy Minister of Agriculture King of N.B. He wouldn't be sure. It may cost a few millions and then again there is a possibility that the surplus will have largely disappeared. There are all those other markets outside the United States to be satisfied and nobody can tell how much they may take.

I talked with Harry Webb, a veteran exporter who was shipping potatoes to Cuba 40 years ago and has been shipping ever since, though not to Cuba. Then it was the best market but Canada clapped a tariff on Cuban sugar and that cooked the potato trade. Cuba started to grow her own potatoes from Northern seed shipped in September and October. He agreed with Mr.

King on the present situation. The Christmas season is always quiet, he said, but with the turn of the year business looks up and no one can tell how fast they will move out.

I talked with Harry Crandlemire, of Hartland, which is well within the potato belt and a heavy shipping point. He is president of the Potato Growers' Council. This is not a marketing organization but an association which contacts dealers and exporters in the interests of the (Turn to page 30)

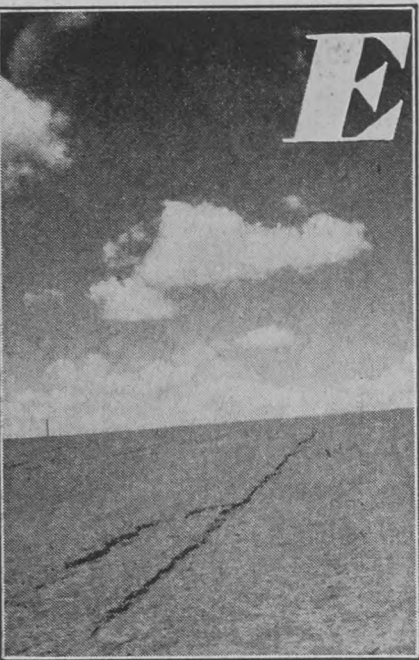


Harvest scene near Hartland in one of New Brunswick's chief potato growing districts.

Maritimers who specialize in potato growing are thrown for a loss when surpluses begin to pile up at home as well as in their lucrative foreign market.

Erosion

Some evidence recorded by the Guide camera in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, that the need for soil-saving is real and important to prairie farmers.



1. Many a prairie farmer has found his fields divided by gullies too deep for machinery to cross, which began like this.



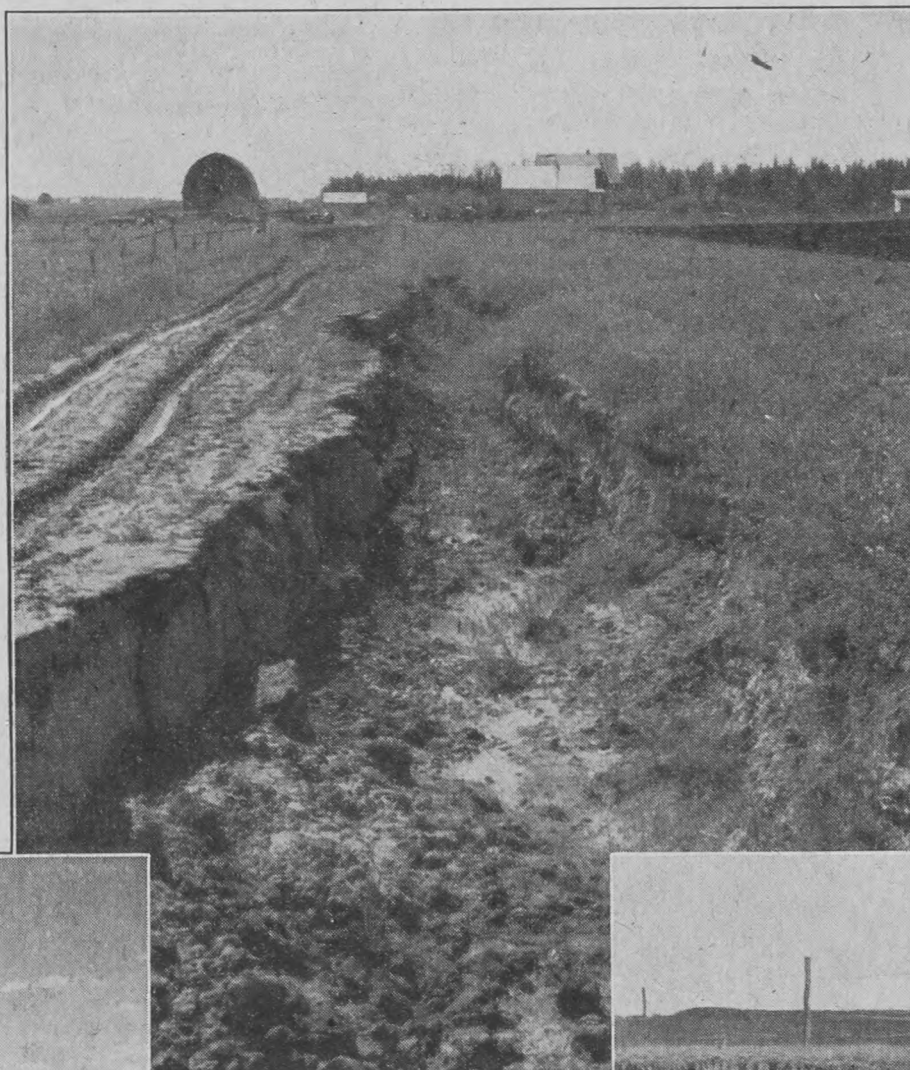
2. Once started, small trickles are quickly enlarged. In this Manitoba picture heavy rains have swept away all loose top soil from several wide channels in the same field. Thirty yards farther down, a three-foot gully has formed. Following the rain, severe wind erosion has taken place and some of the fine surface soil has lodged in the water-made side-hill channels. The main runway below is grassed, but grassing the side-hills also, would have been better farm practice.

3. The slope above has been cultivated instead of seeded down, but it has been cross-cultivated and fairly heavily ridged. Water has cut no channels across it and drifting topsoil blown down from higher levels has been caught and held between the ridges.

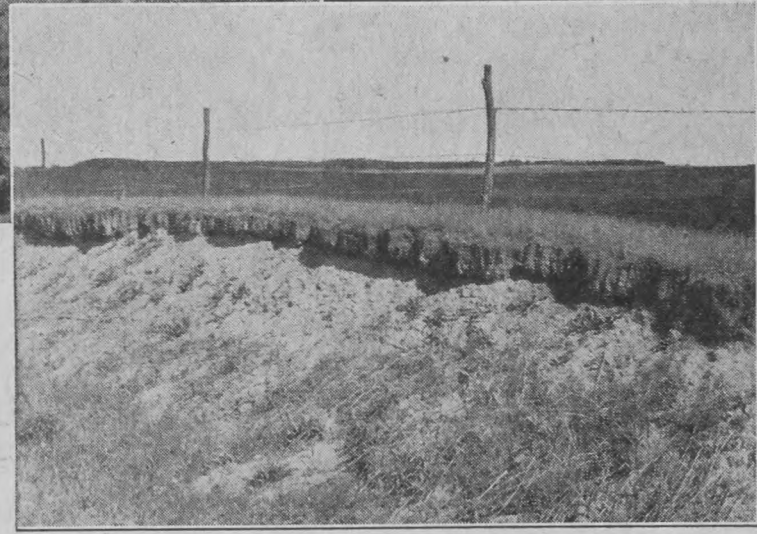
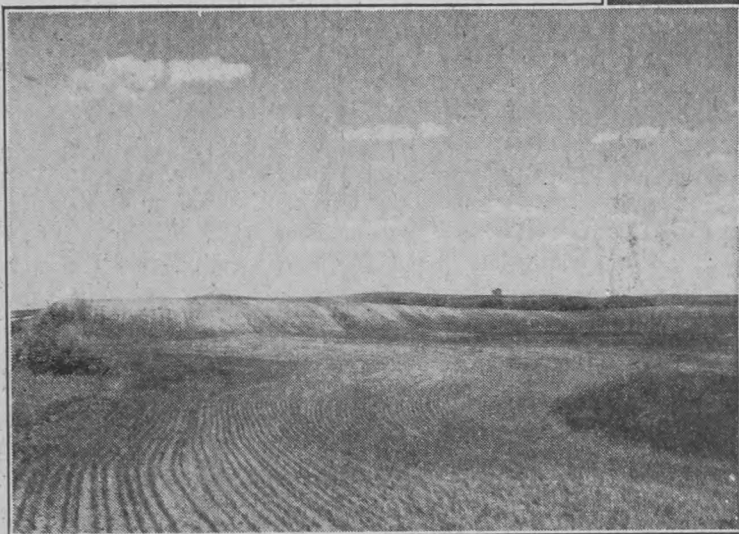
4. On steep slopes and especially under up-and-down tillage methods, rains heavier than usual may cut innumerable channels as in this picture. Here, a pencil is held vertically and its tip just reaches the surface. On such slopes the remedy is grassing and cropping on the contour. Unfortunately, too few prairie farmers have realized the need for contouring, or have ever consulted anyone about how to practise it.



6. The picture below shows the long-time result of soil wastage from constant up-and-down cultivation of hillsides. Not naturally rich, the limited fertility has been steadily drained from the sloping soil in this field, until it illustrates, on an exaggerated scale, the "white-top" condition commonly associated with knolls. This failing fertility derives neither from wind nor water erosion especially, but is chargeable directly to poor, thoughtless farming, which year after year needlessly encourages rather than prevents, fertility losses from erosion.



5. Indifference to municipal drainage problems can lead to this. The picture (taken from the roadside) illustrates not only the easily erodable quality of northern grey-wooded soils, but also, what may be a result of inefficient control of road water.



The Prodigals

With higher living standards have come wastes that exceed anything in the world's history. Waste of anything is not considered important until its cost is calculated; and declining yields are already costing prairie farmers substantially. All any of us have between us and starvation is the proverbial "top six inches." It is the farmer's capital asset and society's greatest resource. We can waste it through carelessness, or double its productivity. At some future day it will be a crime against society to waste soil.

7. This (below) is not a picture of soil erosion from either wind or water. It is a road-cut and the grass on top grows in virgin sod. The thin layer of top soil shown is common to millions of acres of prairie lands and illustrates the need for conserving what little top soil we have.



"I suddenly became aware that someone was standing there, inside the room. A face was staring at me in the mirror, a pale vicious-looking face, its lips twisted in a horrible sort of leer . . ."

Beginning of a new, short serial—a thrilling mystery story of a young lady who came to visit an old house bequeathed to her in the will of an aunt—and the strange events which occurred there and which changed the course of her life.

"You may." The angelic young person narrowed her jade—or was it sea-green?—eyes at me in a way not precisely celestial. "I want the key to the old Carey house, on Sandy Point."

Now, that, I thought, was a very peculiar request. Of course, the firm of Tyson and Scott had handled the Careys' legal affairs for a great many years, but always, I felt sure, with proper caution.

"Exactly," I temporized, meaning something quite different. "Were you thinking of buying the place?"

"Why, no." The girl's smile suddenly switched to the angelic side; it was distinctly bewildering. "I just wanted to look at the house. You see, it's mine already. I'm Sallie Martin."

"Oh!" I said. "Miss Martin, eh? Do sit down."

THE vision slid into a chair. I think she realized that I did not know what she was talking about, for a quizzical, slightly amused look came over her face.

"You're not a . . . not a member of the firm, are you?" she said. It was a statement rather than a question.

"No," I admitted, wondering why she felt so

sure. "I'm Garry Tyson. Judge Tyson is my uncle. I'm reading law here in his office this summer. Polishing up for a post-graduate year at Princeton." I thought I ought to tell her that, at least, since she seemed so superior. "Sam Scott, the other partner, has gone fishing . . . it's his weakness. Which leaves me in charge."

MISS MARTIN frowned. Even her frown was attractive. And as for the way her hair curled under the edge of her snappy little hat . . .

"Then I'll explain," she said, interrupting my thoughts. "Miss Sarah Carey was my aunt. My great-aunt. When she died last month she elected, for some unknown reason, to leave me the house. So you see . . ."

I saw. Plenty of reasons, at least, for the old lady's action; it had my endorsement.

"I've been in Paris, studying," the girl went on. "I paint a little . . . try to. Naturally, I haven't any money. Artists never have . . . there must be a law about it. So when I heard that I'd inherited, I pawned the family jewels, dashed for the next steamer, and . . . here I am."

"Paris' loss," I muttered, "is Doverton's gain." Miss Martin, who was searching through her purse, did not apparently hear my remark.

"Your uncle wrote me about the will," she said, producing a letter.

I glanced at it. The circumstances began to click. I remembered now hearing the Judge say that old

I WAS holding down the office, and reading Burdick on Torts, when the red-headed girl came in.

Mr. Burdick, among law students at least, is a very popular author, and a tort, roughly speaking, is a wrong.

There was nothing wrong with the red-haired girl, however; Nature has been known to turn out a perfect job.

I suppose I might make a list of her attractions, such as curls like polished copper, sea-green eyes, cheeks as clear white as magnolia blossoms, and an angelic—or was it a devilish?—smile. But comparisons like that take your mind off the subject . . . I was looking at a real, live girl.

Gaping, I got to my feet.

"Hello!" I stammered, which as an expression of my real feelings meant nothing at all, or even less. I should have said "Darling!" and taken her in my arms and kissed her.

She said, "Is Judge Tyson in?" Her voice was just as perfect as the rest of her.

"Sorry," I replied. "He had to go over to Salisbury on business. Won't I do?"

Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius

THE Twisted Face

by

FREDERIC ARNOLD KUMMER

Miss Carey had left the Sandy Point property to a distant relative living abroad. Since the place was hers, there seemed no good reason why the girl should not look at it.

"If you'll wait a moment, Miss Martin," I said, "perhaps I can find the key."

I knew I could find it; my uncle, like most old-fashioned country lawyers, while apparently rather careless and easy-going is, in fact, very methodical; the keys to houses the firm has in charge are kept in a battered cigar box on the top shelf of the bookcase in his private office, each bearing a neatly labeled tag. I took out the one I wanted, and went back to the other room.

"Here we are," I said. "You'll find the place rather gloomy; it's been shut up since Miss Carey's death."

"Oh!" Miss Martin grinned. "I thought you might be going to say it's haunted."

"May be, at that," I grinned back. "You really oughtn't to go out there alone. And it's a couple of miles. Have you a car?"

"Oh, yes. Borrowed one from a friend of mine in Baltimore. Drove down in three hours," she added, her greenish eyes crinkling at the corners.

OUR roads on the Eastern Shore of Maryland are unusually good, but three hours from Baltimore was fast driving, for a woman. An ordinary woman, at least; I had begun to put Miss Sallie Martin in the higher brackets.

"You'll bring back the key, of course," I said, in my best legal manner. "I really haven't any right to give it to you; that should be done by my uncle, as executor. 'The Judge,' as everyone here in Doverton calls him, is a very particular old gentleman."

"Maybe he'll be here when I get back," the girl said, going to the door. "If not, at least I'll see you." With the flash of a smile she went out.

I did my best, during the next half-hour, to work up an interest in torts. The thing had been difficult enough even before Miss Martin's arrival, on such a perfect June day. Now, with visions of a red-haired angel pervading the premises it became absurd. My eyes kept turning to the clock. Even angels must eat, I reflected, wondering if Miss Martin would look favorably on an invitation to lunch.

The whistle at Sam Taylor's box factory had just blown the noon hour when she was back, long before I expected it. Our office is one flight up from the street, and I jumped at what seemed to me rapid and uncertain footsteps on the staircase. By the time I was half way to the door it had been pushed open, and the girl stood leaning against the jam. Her cheeks were more like pale magnolia blooms than ever and her fingers clutching the door-frame were trembling.

"What's the matter?" I asked, staring stupidly at her. "Anything wrong?"

"Someone was there! There at the house! Someone terrible!" She flopped into a chair.

"Tell me about it," I urged. "I had a feeling you shouldn't have gone out there alone."

She stared at the key, dangling from her fingers.

"I unlocked the door," she said, "and went in. I thought I heard someone moving about, but I wasn't sure. The front hall seemed dark, after the glare of the sun outside. There was a room to the left, so I looked through the doorway of it. At first I couldn't see anything at all. Then I realized that someone was standing there, inside the room. One of the shutters was open, or broken, maybe, enough to let in a little light. In front of me, on the opposite wall, hung a mirror. An oval mirror, not very large. I could see a face in it staring at me! A pale,

vicious-looking face, with its lips twisted in a horrible sort of . . . of . . ."

"Leer," I suggested.

The girl glanced up as if she thought I was making fun of her. I wasn't, even though "leer" did sound a bit melodramatic. But she made no comment . . . just smiled and went on, bravely:

"I knew that whoever was there must be standing on the same side of the room as I was. Where I couldn't see him. So I pretended I hadn't seen the reflection in the mirror, either. He didn't move or speak . . . just stood there glaring at me! I could make out his eyes, very brilliant and watchful, shaded by a cap, and below them that terrible, twisted face! I had forced myself to glance carelessly about the room as though I hadn't seen anything, and then . . . I walked out. Ran, as soon as I got to the door! I didn't stop to lock it!" She laughed, but her lips were quivering. "I suppose I lost my nerve!"

"Lost your nerve? Don't be absurd! It took plenty to walk out of there the way you did, without screaming! But are you dead sure you didn't catch a glimpse of yourself in that mirror? You're wearing a sort of cap, you know, and . . ."

"And have such a delightful leer! Nice of you. But there was someone else in the room; I could hear someone breathing." She laid the key in my hand; her fingers were icy. "Thanks for your trouble."

"Forget it," I said. "Now, here's my suggestion. We'll go over to the hotel and have something to eat. My idea is you ran into some sneak thief, surprised him ransacking the house. As soon as we've finished lunch I'll get hold of Lem Purnell, our chief of police, and we'll go back there, see what's what."

"Can you leave the office?" Miss Martin asked, with her unangelic smile.

"Even law students must eat," I said.

Doverton's police station is a two-by-four brick building. We found Lem Purnell in the front room of it, untangling a fishing line and smoking a corn-cob pipe.

"Mornin'," he said, staring at my red-headed companion.

"Hello, Chief!" I said. "Meet Miss Martin."

Lem waved us to chairs.

"Niece of the late Miss Sarah Carey," I went on. "The old lady left her the Sandy Point property. Miss Martin went out to look at it this morning and had an unpleasant experience . . ."

"Alone?" Lem asked, in mild surprise.

"Yes," I said. "There was no one else at the office."

"H-m." He gave the girl one of his quick, boyish smiles. "What happened, Miss Martin?"

The girl told him, briefly. He knocked the ashes from his pipe, dropped it into his pocket. "Reckon

we had better go out there."

At the sidewalk he called to Benny Hartwig, who was enjoying a quiet hour directing traffic at Sixth and Main.

"Watch out for the office, Benny," he said, "until I get back."

He climbed into his car, and Miss Martin and I followed in her roadster.

"I like him," she whispered.

"Good egg," I said.

We didn't talk, after that, until we got to the

door of Miss Carey's house.

The place was in very bad order, no doubt because the old lady had been ill for a number of years. The lawns were yellow with dandelions, the shrubbery had been allowed to run wild.

The house itself was in no better condition. The old bricks were green with moss, the woodwork and shutters black from mildew, the rainspouts and gutters rusted to thin, brown lace.

The handsome colonial doorway stood two stone steps above the drive. Miss Martin, in her hurry, had not locked the door. Lem pushed it open, went inside.

WE followed him. The hall was gloomy and dark, and the room to the left even darker. I could see a small oval mirror on the wall facing me. Lem went to the rear of the room, pushed open the blinds of one of the tall French windows. There was a porch outside.

The room, from its furnishings, was apparently a library, although there were no books on its rows of shelves. Miss Martin, in the doorway, stood gazing at the mirror.

"All I can see in it now," she said, "is what looks like the front of a closet."

I stepped into the room. At the side of the chimney breast was a mahogany door. Lem, ahead of me, took hold of the brass knob, jerked the door open.

As the closet door swung open, a dark, rigid figure leaned forward for an instant, like someone about to make a bow. Then, before we could draw back, it crashed horribly to the floor at our feet. I glimpsed a descending face, twisted in agony and plaster-white! Miss Martin gave a quick, gurgling cry and tumbled into my arms!

Lem, who used to be a top sergeant, snapped back to his days with the A.E.F.

"Take that girl back to town!" he barked. "And send Doc Richardson and Matt Gordy out here right away! Move!"

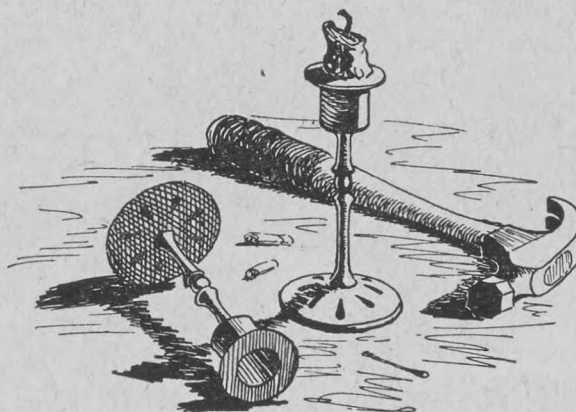
I moved. Miss Martin's cheeks would have made the palest magnolia blossoms look pink, but she had not fainted.

"So this is Doverton!" she whispered.

I don't remember much about our drive back to town, except that Miss Martin was tremendously game. She didn't say anything; just sat there quietly, with an occasional catching sob.

My uncle's housekeeper, Mrs. Cropper, is a very understanding woman, and did not seem to think it queer when I arrived at the house with a girl she had never seen before and ordered her put to bed. As soon as Miss Martin had been parked in the guest room, I telephoned Dr. Richardson and asked him to stop by the house on his way to Sandy Point.

(Turn to page 45)





The Grizzly was halfway across the open towards me before I saw him...

moose, so I thought it would be worthwhile to explore.

It was a nice place. The timber, balsams that spired sharply and symmetrically, was not too thick for there were narrow lanes of soggy grass between the thickets and every once in a while a little pond came into sight. It was not a place to hold many tracks, but the long grasses were bent and trodden. Here and there I found the flattened areas of some caribou beds. Then, pushing through an unusually thick bit of scrub, I came out into a good-sized meadow and came face to face with a wilderness mystery.

It was an apple orchard. There must have been a dozen trees scattered over a two-acre meadow. They were husky-trunked, gnarled, unpruned, and lonely looking trees. Most of the leaves were off but plenty of red apples were on the higher branches, and the ground under the trees was bright with them. Here was certainly a mystery. How had the trees got their start?

I made a circle around the place looking for a cabin but there was none. No old campsite; no sign of trees sawn off in the long past; no old tins; nothing but apple trees and their mystery. I stood looking at them, speculating on the "how come."

My guess is that some prospector experimentally planted some apple cores—or perhaps someone liked the place enough to want to live there and planted small trees for them to get a start by the time he was ready to build. The lengths some people will go to to establish a home! Probably I was the only person to see these trees since they were saplings. I tried one

of the apples and found it hard but good.

I was no sooner among the fallen fruit than I knew where the local bears got their bellies full. In places the ground was mushy with droppings. Big paws had trampled scores of apples into the sod. Some of the trees were ripped and broken, the branches dead and drooping earthwards. The place was a wilderness feasting ground. Deer came here, coyotes, and the occasional caribou, but mostly it was a place for bears.

At one corner of the orchard the ground was higher and a big grey green boulder humped out of the long grass. I went there, flattened the grass, and sat down with my back to the stone. My drab mackinaw blended well. I waited for something to show up. Now, a man sitting waiting for game usually does quite a bit of thinking between moments of anticipation. My thoughts revolved as usual, then settled on one point from which they refused to be pried loose—namely, ethics. I asked myself was I doing the sporting thing?

When you try to define what is sporting you are up against argument even when you talk it over with yourself. When you try to lay down rules, generally you are finished before you start. Myself, I don't like too much stuff about shooting game at 400 yards with .300 Magnums and target scopes. It takes good shooting but to get game that way strikes me as too death-ray like. I like to get within 40 yards of what I'm after. But the long range man can rightly (Turn to page 74)

A SPORTING trophy cannot really be measured by breadth of antler or how far down it presses the scales—or by what it cost in cash outlay to secure. What matters is how you got it. And that is a mighty personal thing. We all have our notions as to sporting procedure, what's good or bad, what's on the square (for us), and what seems dubious (when the other fellow does it).

Myself, I've never liked the sound of shooting bears over a bait. It brings pictures to mind of trusting black-bears that daily visit a logging camp garbage heap—then a shot that takes no skill or stalking. Or of spring grizzly hunting when the slide is baited with a dead horse or two. That's just my idea, of course. It's all the way you think about it. I just don't like it.

Yet the trophy I put ahead of all my others was taken over a bait—and my ethics remained intact. It was like this:

It was mid-October. I was hunting alone at the headwaters of a far back mountain creek that wormed its way out of the Shuswap mountains, British Columbia. That's as close as I'm saying—I don't want to run across enthusiastic hunters next time I go in there.

The place was a valley, a narrow, high-walled, east and west bit of lost and lonesome. But it was grizzly country from the flat meadows by the tiny stream to the great slides of grass and wild vegetables that swept steeply up to mountain rims. There were great alder patches, acres of blueberries, rock slides full of fat marmots—all things that grizzlies like.

I HAD a snug but skimpy camp under a spreading balsam, where I could keep my eyes on two good looking slides up valley and across the creek. The set-up was ideal. I had the place to myself and there was no doubt at all that there were some grizzlies around by the tracks and diggings, but I couldn't manage to rest easy in my mind and altogether enjoy hunting for them for I was assailed by apprehensions. The first was to do with snow. Mid-October is too late to be in the high mountains. Snow may come with overnight suddenness and it's no joke getting out. The high peaks already had a couple of feet of snow on them and every day the white came further down. By all the rules of common sense, I should be on my way out, not hanging around waiting. But I wanted a bear.

Which brings me to apprehension number two. That I wouldn't get one before the snow came. When you figure that time and patience are very much needed in grizzly hunting, you can figure

that my concern of the snow was no idle weather worry. No, get a bear, and fast, was the order.

But for two days I had been camped in the valley, I had had no luck. It was that exasperating kind of place that had signs everywhere, but nowhere in sufficient profusion to make concentration there a sound gamble—when all the time the hovering threat of snow irked me to keep moving sort of to hurry things up. So for two days I had been hunting the upper end of the valley, the open slopes, around the great clumps of tangled mountain alder, foraging in the grassy lanes between blueberry patches. I had seen signs enough to keep me continuously alert and expectant. But the luck was with the bears.

THE third day I crossed the creek in front of my camp, went through a quarter mile of head-high little firs and spruces and knee-deep grass to where the valley floor began to steepen and get rocky; then I turned down valley where the country looked flat and more heavily timbered. I somehow wondered what that flat held; perhaps it was a good place for other game. The country held caribou, mule deer, and the occasional

We all have our notions as to sporting procedure—what matters in my opinion is how you get your trophy.



The Bells are Ringing

by JACK KARNEY

The story of Rocky, who put his heart and soul into the fight game.

Illustrated by Maurice MacDonald

YOU come out of your corner, nice and slow, knowing that the Champ will play around for a round or two, feel you out, and you're glad. You want it that way. Maybe once you warm up you can forget. Maybe you can stop trying to figure things out and concentrate on the fight. You can't spot the Champ a part of your brain and hope to win. You need everything you've got, mentally and physically, to beat the Champion of Champions. And you try hard to forget, but you can't. The Champ is a brown blur of lightning, in white and black trunks. His left snaps your head back and already there's the taste of blood in your mouth . . . Francine . . . Virginia . . .

Rocky Sears and his manager Pop Beal came out of the matchmaker's office into the sun-drenched street and a dozen kids swarmed over Rocky for his autograph. While he was signing the slips of ragged paper, people walking by stopped to say, Hello, Rocky. Rocky grinned and said hello to these people he'd never seen before. A minute later the Champ himself came out and the kids made a run for the big brown man and Rocky was forgotten. Rocky laughed good-naturedly and Pop Beal said, "When you beat him, it'll be the other way around."

"When I beat him," Rocky said.

Virgie Beal, Pop's daughter who'd been standing to one side, waiting for Rocky and her father, took Rocky's arm, looked up at him questioningly. She wasn't a beautiful girl, her nose was too small, the hazel eyes too big; her face needed powder to kill the shine; her long, angular body was more on the boyish side.

Rocky nodded. "We got it, a 15-rounder with the Champ in the Garden three weeks from Friday night."

The warm smile lit up her face as she squeezed his hand. "I'm glad, Rocky, I'm glad for you."

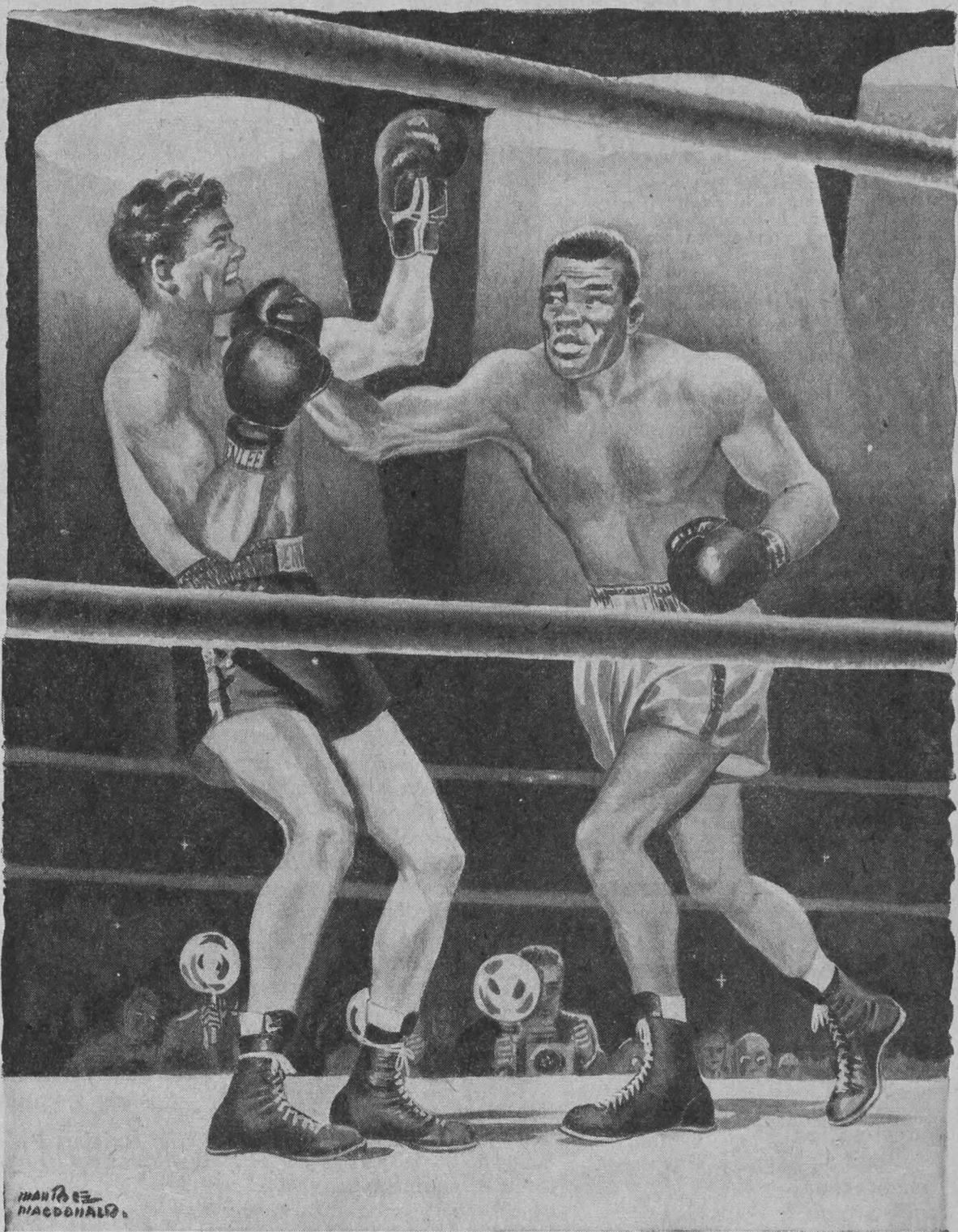
He ran a big thumb across the scarred tissue over his eyebrow. "For you too, baby, be glad for both of us."

Pop Beal, short and thin, grinned through a mouth of gold-capped teeth. "I hear wedding bells," he chuckled. "Big and loud."

Rocky hailed a cab, then he turned to Pop and said in mock relief, "You hear bells too? I was getting scared maybe that last fight with the Frenchman left marks inside my head."



Virginia.



The champ stabs and hooks and crosses and you try to put over that one punch. That's all you need, one punch.

Pop and Virgie exchanged quick glances as they got into the cab. When it pulled away from the curb, Pop said:

"That was a tough fight. And the French matress couldn't smell the Champ's sweat. You won't have a picnic with the colored boy. I still say you shouldn't have signed. You've been in this game a long time, Rocky, too damn long . . ."

Rocky reached over, mussed Pop's neatly combed grey hair. He said, a little gruffly. "You gonna go into that song again?" He smiled. "Looks like I'm gonna have father-in-law trouble."

Virgie looked up at him. Her eyes were full of stardust when she looked at him like that. She said, "And don't you love it?"

POP shook his head. He looked troubled. "After Virgie and you are married, I'll find myself a room in a nice hotel. After you, Rocky, I couldn't find the ambition to start a new stable." There was a question in his voice. "I'm too old to teach a new kid the ropes."

Rocky winked down at Virgie. "Guess you're right, Pop."

Pop said, "You and Virgie, what would you do with an old duck like me around?"

Rocky sighed. "You're right, Pop."

Pop looked away, crestfallen. "An old duck like me," he said.

Virgie said, "Stop teasing Dad, Rocky, tell him."

Rocky scratched his tousled brown hair, yawned.

Pop lifted his head, a ray of hope in his eyes.

"Tell me what? Rocky, for God's sake, what you want to tell me?"

Rocky said, "Nothing much. Virgie and I, we're gonna build us a eight-room house. That's all."

Pop's mouth opened, closed, opened. "That's all?" he said.

Virgie patted Pop's hand. "Rocky is trying to tell you you're going to live with us. We need you, Dad."

Relief shining in his face, Pop turned to Rocky for confirmation. Rocky laughed. "Sure we need you, Pop. You know what stiff fees these baby sitters charge?"

THEY stopped for ice cream before going into the hotel. The clerk at the desk smiled up at the big-shouldered Rocky Sears, whose face bore the marks of a hundred ring battles. There was a message for Rocky. It had been delivered an hour ago by messenger. Rocky opened the envelope, read the brief note, read it again, stood staring down at the pink sheet of paper.

Pop said, "Something wrong?"

Rocky crumpled the paper, put it into his jacket pocket. He said tonelessly, "It's Francine. She's in town."

Pop muttered something under his breath. Virgie looked at Rocky, studying his face.

Pop said, "Let's go upstairs, Rocky."

"Yeah," Rocky said, "Let's go upstairs."

Rocky followed Pop and Virgie to the elevator. The door was open, the elevator boy waiting. Virgie and Pop went inside. Rocky stood outside, his forehead wrinkled.

Pop said, "We'll have soup instead of ice cream. C'mon, Rocky."

(Turn to page 52)

DEAF?

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News of Agriculture



Canadian agricultural products show to good advantage in this display in London's Smithfield Market.

New Farm Income Tax Form

A NEW income tax form to be used by individuals, including farmers, has been prepared for use this year in reporting incomes for the year 1948. The new form is much simpler than the one which has been in use in recent years and in addition farmers will appreciate the abandonment of the net worth statement, except where farmers are on an accrual basis, or where they must go back over several years during which they have not filed returns.

In filling out the new form farmers will be well advised to fill out the statement appearing on page four before they attempt to complete any other portion of the form. The form, incidentally, is partly, at least, the result of representations made over a considerable period of time by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture urging a more simplified form which farmers would find easier to complete, and for which they would find it less trouble to keep records.

Farmers And National Income

MUCH of the blame for the present-day high cost-of-living is being attributed to the high prices that farmers are receiving for their products. The fact that farm prices are higher now than they have been for many years is being given a lot of publicity, while the rise in incomes of other groups is receiving less attention.

In 1931, 1932, and 1933 the net farm income of Canadian farm operators was, respectively 4.5, 4.2 and 4.1 per cent of the net national income. In 1941 it was 8.3 per cent, rising to 13.0 per cent in 1942. The last Dominion-wide census, taken in 1941, showed the farm population to be 27.4 per cent of the total Canadian population. In 1947 the net farm income of farm operators was 11.3 per cent of the net national income. John L. McDougall, professor of economics at Queens University, points out that in 1931 when the farm population received 4.5 per cent of the national income it comprised 31.7 per cent of the Canadian population. Consumers, in thinking of costs of food tend to compare present prices with the low prices of the thirties.

In 1946 the net national income in Canada was calculated to be 9,600,000,000 dollars, but the net farm in-

come was only 1,267,000,000 dollars. This means the people on the farms—about one-quarter of the population—received about 13 per cent of the net national income.

The condition in the United States is not very much different. In November the commerce department estimated that in 1948 farmers might get 8.5 per cent of the national income compared to 9.7 per cent received in 1947.

In arguing for lower farm prices many consumers fail to realize that they are arguing for a return to the price levels of the thirties. It is time they realized that farmers are not being overpaid for their produce.

British Farmers Grow More

BRITISH farmers are stepping up farm production, according to the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales. Commenting on the June return by the Ministry of Agriculture, the N.F.U. points out that cattle numbers increased by 154,000 over 1947, sheep and lambs by 686,000, pigs by 485,000 and poultry by 10,700,000.

The tillage area was increased by 263,000 acres, in addition to which 260,000 acres were taken out of bare fallow.

The need for conserving feed supplies has led British farmers to attach greater emphasis to improved animal breeding. Artificial insemination has made marked strides in four years, and the British Government recently announced that first generation heifers out of artificially inseminated cows reflected the results of superior sires by producing about 800 pounds more milk per year than where blood lines of average quality are used as in natural breeding.

A FRENCH clergyman and a German research chemist have tried two different methods of controlling the Colorado potato beetle. Professor Richard Kuhn, a Nobel prize winner, has found that the Mexican potato leaf contains solanine and is never attacked by the beetle. He is trying to produce a new drug, demissine, from these leaves, to be used as a spray or bred into European potato leaves. The French clergyman has found that the beetles are attracted to petunias, which are fatal to them. He is testing rows of petunias between potato plants as a trap crop for the potato beetles.

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G. N. Denike Appointed

EARLY in January the Dominion Department of Agriculture announced the appointment of G. N. Denike, as Superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask., to succeed L. B. Thompson, who several months ago became Director of P.F.R.A. in Regina.

Prior to his appointment Mr. Denike was assistant superintendent at Swift Current and in charge of the agricultural engineering work of the Station. Manitoba born, the new superintendent is a graduate of the University of Manitoba. Before graduation he worked during the summer months at the Swift Current Station and at the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory, Winnipeg. After graduation in 1929, he became assistant superintendent in charge of agricultural engineering at Swift Current.

Since 1935, when the P.F.R.A. program was established, Mr. Denike has had something to do with all of the big irrigation projects at Val Marie, Eastend, Maple Creek and Swift Current.

rent, and has been responsible for mechanical aspects of soil drifting control and irrigation developments under the P.F.R.A. Mr. Denike has also been secretary of the national committee on agricultural engineering since its inception in 1936. He is a member of the Agricultural Institute of Canada and the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, and during the war served as technical advisor to the administrator of agricultural and road machinery in the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Stothart Moves To Lacombe

J. G. STOTHART, formerly of the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, has been transferred to the Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe, Alta., as assistant superintendent in charge of livestock. His special field is swine breeding.

A graduate of Macdonald College of 1932, he received a Master of Science Degree from the same institution in 1936. He has been with the Central Experimental Farm since 1932.

Get It At A Glance

News shorts for quick reading.

WORLD wheat production for 1948 is now estimated at 6.28 billion bushels or 275 million bushels more than the average for 1935-39, and 470 million bushels more than the 1947 crop. Less wheat was produced last year in North America, South America and Oceania (chiefly Australia), but Europe alone produced 440 million bushels more while additional increases occurred in the U.S.S.R. (15 million increase), Asia (133 million increase), and Africa 20 million increase.

EUROPE, one of the most highly developed agricultural and industrial regions in the world, covers less than five per cent of the earth's surface and has more than 15 per cent of its population. Cereal crops occupy about 41 per cent of good arable land and the highest yield of wheat per acre is obtained in the Low Countries, Denmark and the United Kingdom.

WORLD production of wool in 1948 has been estimated at 3,830,000,000 pounds, or about three per cent above 1947. Less wool was produced in Canada and the United States, but Australian wool may amount to 1,000,000,000 pounds; and New Zealand, the Argentine, South Africa, Turkey, and India, as well as other countries, including most of Europe except Belgium, Eire, Holland, Greece and Czechoslovakia, showed increases.

UNITED STATES exports of livestock have increased about 510 per cent in ten years or from \$1,535,145 in 1937 to \$9,374,081 in 1947. The majority of this livestock was purchased for herd improvement and was distributed to many countries. Sheep alone showed a decline.

INDEX numbers of farm prices of agricultural products for the last two months have indicated a reverse of the steady climb of the last two years. The September figures dropped to 253.1 from the August level of 255.8 (1935-1939=100). The downward trend continued in October, the

average index for the month of October being 251.1. In October 1947, the index was 208.6. This downward trend was chiefly attributed to declines in the prices of fruits, coarse grains, poultry, eggs and potatoes.

FEED molasses can be made from wood. The Forest Products Laboratory, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has a pilot plant for the purpose and several agricultural experiment stations have made tests with livestock. In Montana, molasses from lodge pole pine and larch was substitute for 1/6 of the grain ration for lambs.

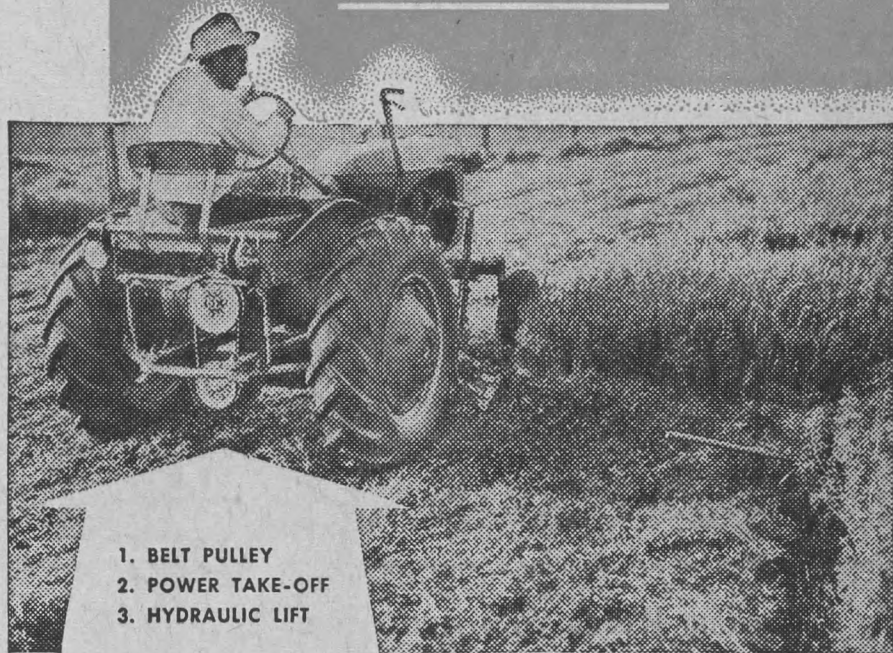
WORMWOOD is a perennial plant cultivated in Michigan and Indiana for its oil, used in liniment. Crops run 15 to 20 pounds of oil per acre worth 90 to 120 dollars. About 3,000 acres are grown in the U.S.

LAST year the capital invested in Canadian farms amounted to \$6,253,726,000. This is exclusive of the value of fur-bearing animals on farms and was eight per cent above the 1946 farm capital, including fur farming. Farm implement investments were up six per cent, farm lands and buildings 10 per cent, and all classes of livestock and poultry, except horses, were likewise up over 1946.

REPLYING to a statement made some time ago in England by Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture for Ottawa, Mr. Tom Williams, British Minister of Agriculture said: "In the past we have bought all the bacon Canada has been able to send us; in future we will buy as much as we have the dollars to pay for; we shall not refuse to buy so long as any dollars are left in the kitty."

FARM laborers are better off in Canada. For 1947, the index of farm prices of agricultural products (1935-39 equals 100) was 204 and 259 for the United States. By the spring of 1948 the monthly farm wage without board was \$113 in each country.

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In addition, recent research has shown that the ingredients in a 2,4-D Ester formulation, other than the ester itself, play an important role in the performance of the product. These field tests showed that the other ingredients in Agricultural Weed-No-More make it suspend more readily, mix more easily with hard water, provide extra safety for crops, give quicker knock-down and better control of weeds. Don't gamble with weed control. Use Green Cross Agricultural Weed-No-More, proved superior on over 1,500,000 acres of Canadian grain.

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Alberta Farm Groups Unite

After years of ineffectual effort to amalgamate, the U.F.A. and the A.F.U. combine to form the Farmers' Union of Alberta.

THE act of amalgamation between the U.F.A. and the Alberta Farmers' Union was finally accomplished at a Calgary convention which struggled with its problem from Tuesday morning till Saturday night, January 10 to 15.

Amalgamation has been discussed since 1942 but all previous efforts to bring it about failed. In the senior organization there were some who felt that irresponsible militancy would bring its young rival down in ruin at no distant date. In the Farmers' Union there were some who believed that the U.F.A. was mortally afflicted with hardening of the arteries. In the view of these opposing extremes all that was required was for their own organization to hang on while destiny counted its opponent out. Why amalgamate?

The vast majority in both organizations, however, understood clearly their common agreement in fundamentals. Amalgamation to them was inevitable. It just did not make sense for two organizations with similar aims, and no irreconcilable differences to waste their strength competing for the support of the farmers of Alberta.

In this spirit the Calgary convention with 634 accredited delegates met. With the past record of failure to amalgamate before them, there was a grim determination that somehow or other accommodation would have to be found on all points. Throughout the long sessions, which began early and adjourned late, the argument on both sides was spirited and tenacious. The convention moved from one crisis to another. As late as Thursday night the chances for amalgamation seemed about 50-50. In the end compromise prevailed, due in no small measure to the competence of the joint chairmen, Andrew Wood of Dewberry, and Henry G. Young of Millet, who provided a fine display of fairness, good humor, and inflexible adherence to the rules of the game.

Out of the crucible came the new organization, The Farmers' Union of Alberta. The name itself suggests the predominating influence at the convention. In fact the A.F.U. could have out-voted the U.F.A. three to two, and was in a position to impose its will on any debatable issue.

The new Union will have a women's section and a youth's section, after the manner of its older parent. It will be governed by a board of directors elected at district conventions, and an executive elected by and responsible only to the annual convention. It was feared by some delegates that this new departure in organization left the way open for discord between the executive and the board. Their views, however, failed to persuade the majority.

The most contentious issues were the attitude which should be taken toward direct action, and toward the Federation of Agriculture. There was a wide acknowledgement that the non-delivery strike of 1946 was not a success, and that the greatest sufferers were the farmers involved. On the other hand, the militants insisted on retaining a weapon it could brandish

when farmers' just demands were persistently shelved. The U.F.A. delegates battled stoutly to delete all reference in the constitution to direct action, but in vain.

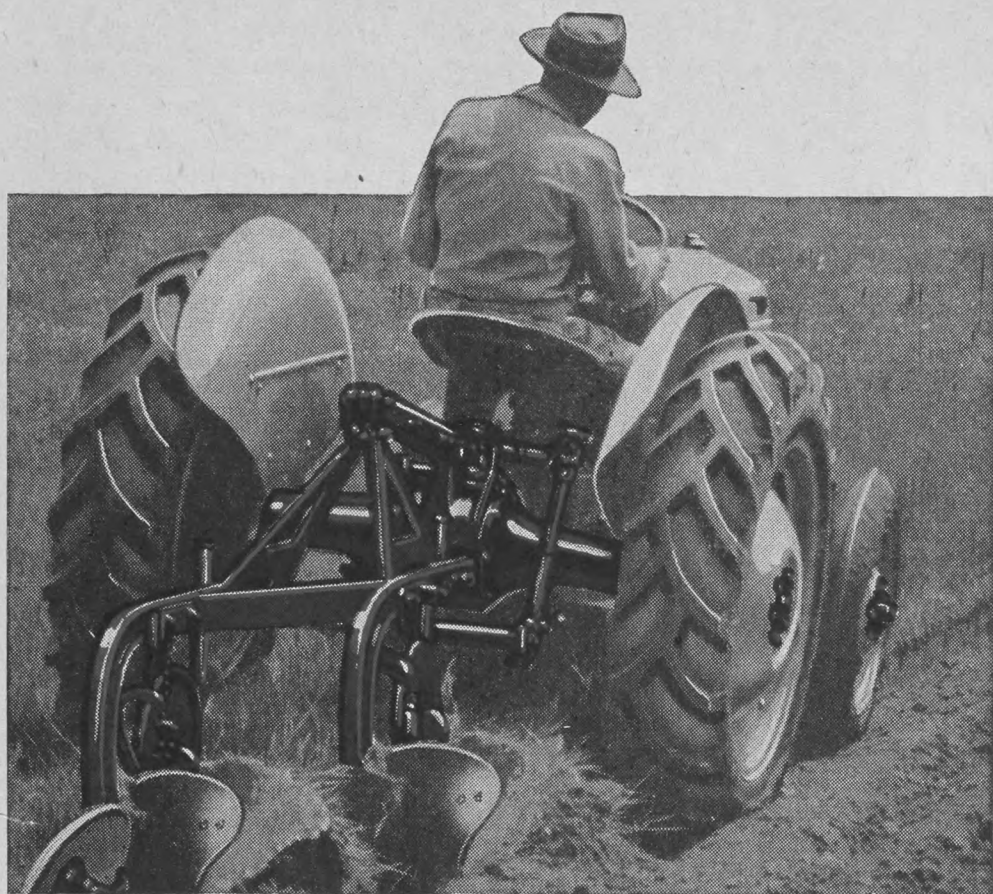
They had their innings, however, in the outcome of the debate over what financial support, if any, should be accorded to the Federation. Indeed the U.F.A. had made Federation support a condition of amalgamation and could not be defeated over this point without breaking up the conference. Their opponents sought to compromise on the basis of a yearly grant, varying according to the varying fortunes of the new Union, which might, of course, involve cutting the grant if the Federation failed to further Union policies. But George Church, retiring president of the U.F.A. was adamant. Out of the adopted fee of \$2.50 annually, 50 cents will remain with the district, and 20 cents will go to the Federation.

THE level of fees itself was subject to long discussion. A fairly large section argued that farmers' organizations had never been adequately supported financially. They advocated an annual fee of not less than five dollars. The opposite view was taken by many of those who have borne the brunt of collecting fees in the past. Old Farmers' Union members recounted how, when their fees were raised from one dollar to \$2.50, their membership was cut from 30,000 to 15,000 in one year. Numbers, they contended, were more important in influencing government than a big war chest. The fee adopted was in the nature of a compromise.

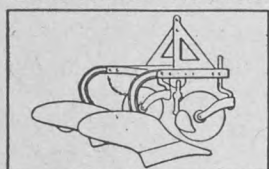
The attitude of the convention toward close affiliation with organized labor precipitated a sharp exchange. The sickle and hammer platoon wanted to have written right into the constitution a clause supporting trade union co-operation. The opposing group, led by J. M. Bentley, North Edmonton, declared that the main purpose of the new Union would be to look after farmers' interests and not the affairs of other sections of the national economy. While the Union regarded labor in a friendly manner and would co-operate in a general way, individual issues should be judged on their own merit. He called on the Union to avoid entangling alliances with organizations not rural in character. The outcome of the debate was the framing of a general resolution for the guidance of the executive, but the omission of any binding clause in the constitution.

Eventually both organizations ratified the Union in separate conventions closed to the press, although it is credibly reported that certain disaffected parties in the A.F.U. who failed of election to the new board, have threatened to employ legal means to prevent transfer of the old organization's assets to its successor.

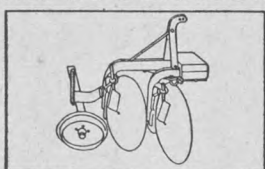
The executive for the coming year will be: Carl Stimpfle, president; R. Hennig and R. N. Russell, vice-presidents; Mrs. M. E. Lowe, Women's Union president. The provisional board will consist of eight members from each of the old organizations.—P. M. A.



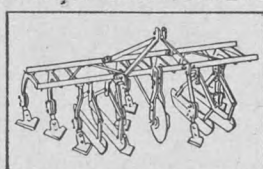
THERE ARE MORE THAN 60 DEARBORN FARM IMPLEMENTS



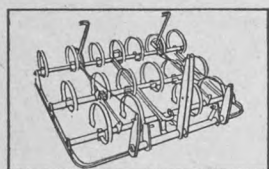
MOLDBOARD PLOW



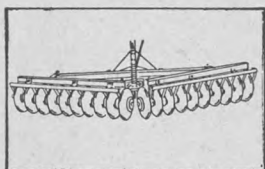
DISC PLOW



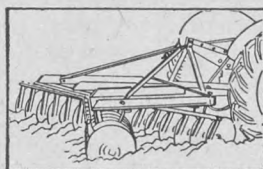
RIGID SHANK CULTIVATOR



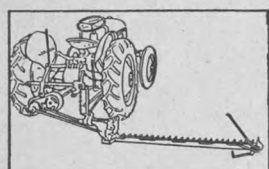
SPRING TOOTH HARROW



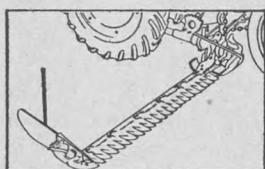
SINGLE DISC HARROW



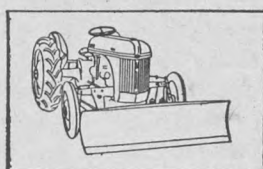
TANDEM DISC HARROW



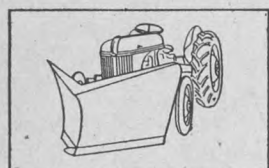
REAR ATTACHED MOWER



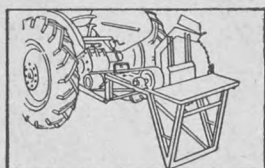
SIDE MOUNTED MOWER



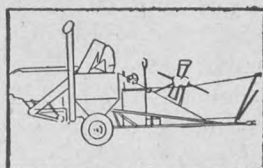
ANGLE DOZER



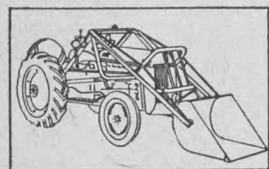
"V" SNOW PLOW



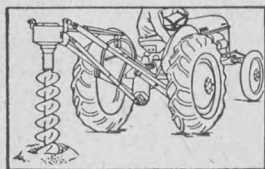
CORDWOOD SAW



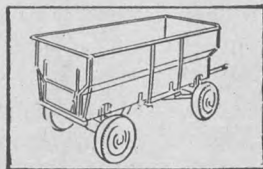
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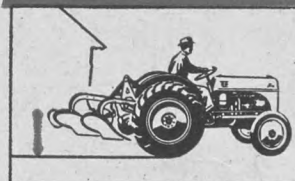
Illustrated above is the Dearborn Moldboard Plow which can be attached or detached in 60 seconds or less. It can be raised or lowered at a touch of your finger. It's easy to maintain uniform depth control.

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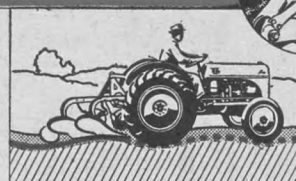
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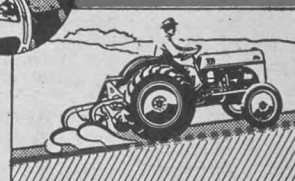
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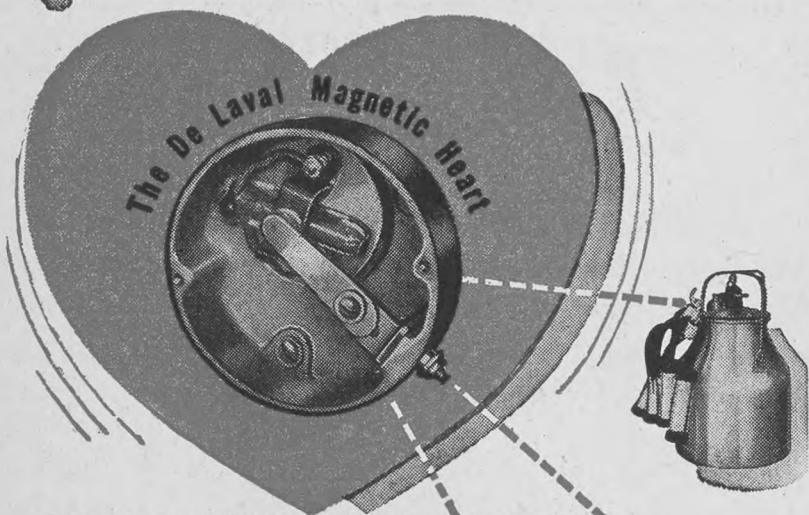
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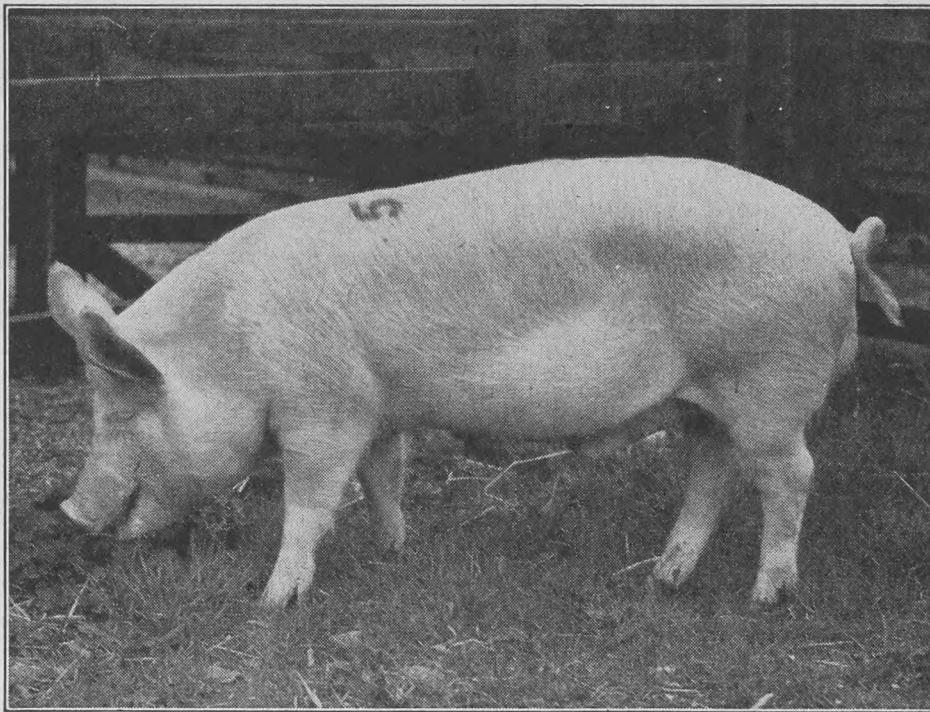
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[British Information Service.]

British Large White boar that made 200 gs. (\$840) at an English auction sale.

Progress In T.B. Testing

Five million Canadian cattle under test or observation for T.B.

AGRICULTURE as an industry is full of problems, economic, scientific, social and practical. Some of these problems arise because of the very nature of agriculture itself, the constant dealing with nature in her many aspects and forms. Others arise because agriculture as an industry is managed by about 700,000 separate and individual managers in Canada as a whole, and around 269,000 in the three prairie provinces.

Each branch of agriculture has more than enough problems of its own, especially if to these particular problems are added those which are common to agriculture generally. Problems in the livestock industry are many, one of the most important being that related to disease and the losses resulting from it.

Cattle, as in most countries, are the most numerous of all kinds of livestock and the problem of disease, which takes many forms, is important economically and also from a public health standpoint, because of the direct relation to human food supply. Cattle are subjected to many diseases, among which contagious abortion, mastitis, shipping fever, and tuberculosis need only be mentioned, to indicate their importance to all cattlemen.

Tuberculosis, in particular, has been attacked in an organized way by The Health of Animals Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Many fairly large areas in Canada have been made completely free of tuberculosis as a result of use of the tuberculin test, coupled with sanitary measures. Though slow in starting, the demand for tuberculin testing now taxes all of the facilities the Dominion Government can master; and at the present time nearly five million animals, or about one-half of the cattle population of Canada, are under the supervision of this division.

This important disease calls for eradication for several reasons. Among the most important is the fact that it is transmissible to man and therefore a menace to public health, since contact with diseased animals or the consumption of infected animal products is dangerous. Another very serious factor is that tuberculosis is usually un-

detected where herds are not supervised, until it may have ruined the entire herd. Likewise, the loss suffered by the owner when tuberculosis infected animals are slaughtered, is very heavy. Valuable purebred animals of course, bring no more than the uninfected portions of the meat may bring for food, or perhaps no more than the fertilizer value of the entire carcass.

A disease-free herd surrounded by herds that may be infected is always in danger and this is also true when disease-free animals are transported from one farm to another. The presence of infected animals open to contact on the way is sometimes hard to detect. Another loss lies in the fact that a great many of our grade dairy cattle and purebred cattle of all breeds are exported, and unless Canadian cattle are free of disease, particularly from tuberculosis and brucellosis (contagious abortion), they cannot be exported except for immediate slaughter.

For all of these reasons, tuberculosis is an important source of loss in the cattle industry. It follows that no owner of a herd now free from disease should ever accept as additions to his herd, animals that are from other herds not equally free of disease, or which have not been tuberculin tested.

The Veterinary Director-General, Dr. T. Childs, early in January announced a change in the regulations covering the branding of cattle which have reacted either to the blood test for Brucellosis (Bang's Disease) or the tuberculin test. Effective January 3, all cattle which have reacted to the Brucellosis test must be branded with a B on the right hand cheek, at least 3¼ inches by 2½ inches in size. Cattle which have reacted to the tuberculin test must carry a T-brand on the left cheek 2½ inches in height with a 2½ inch bar on the T. Formerly the Brucellosis "B" was tattooed in the right ear and the tuberculosis "T" was punched in the right ear.

The regulations also provide that all cattle which have reacted to either test, must, when disposed of, go to an abattoir in which the Health of Animals Division maintain a recognized inspection service.

Establishing A Basic Herd

THE Taxation Division of the Department of National Revenue, Ottawa, has recently revised its directive with respect to income tax payable by farmers who are producing saleable livestock or livestock products. The new directive (No. 230) explains how what is called a basic herd, for cattle, horses, sheep or swine, may be established.

The principle of a basic herd, says the Department, presupposes a permanent herd and continuity of operation. Provided the producer was producing livestock in 1947 or 1948 and makes application for the establishment of a basic herd before April 30, 1949, such a herd may be established for taxation purposes. Applications should be made to the District Income Tax Office, on a special basic herd application form obtainable at such offices.

The basic herd will be determined on the number of mature animals (cattle—three years old, horses—4 years old, sheep and swine—one year old) which the owner is able to establish as having been acquired by various specified means. The numbers of the basic herd may be increased or decreased in subsequent years; and any taxpayer who has previously reported income on an accrual basis, but whose inventory has been valued at less than the fair market value, may, by means of a special formula, have a basic herd determined. Complete information with regard to all aspects of basic herd establishment is available from the District Income Tax Office.

One Sow—116 Pigs

IN The Country Guide for August 1948, reference was made to a purebred Yorkshire sow Townview Lass 17X, owned by D. C. Smith, Westlock, Alberta, that had produced 104 pigs. Since then her owner has advised us that she has farrowed an additional 12 pigs. These were all weaned about the middle of December, so that Townview Lass 17X has now produced 116 weaned pigs, or an average of 11.6 pigs per litter for 10 litters. Does any reader know of any authenticated record of a sow that has done as well?

Work Horses In Winter

IN many portions of the prairie provinces, nearly all of the work horses not in use are turned out to rustle for themselves during the winter months. Many that are kept in seldom have much to do except to haul some feed and other chore work. They, therefore, need principally a maintenance ration of straw or medium hay, with a little grain in addition. Salt is always advisable. This type of feed is likely to be costive and horses so fed should be watched for digestive disturbances.

All horses that are to be worked during the spring should be conditioned gradually over a month or more. Beginning with a small amount of grain, this should be gradually increased to full feed. If colts are to be broken to harness, frequent hitching up is necessary before work begins.

Trimming the feet should be looked after, so as to make sure that each of the horses' feet rests squarely on the ground, especially the frog and the outer wall of the hoof. Examine

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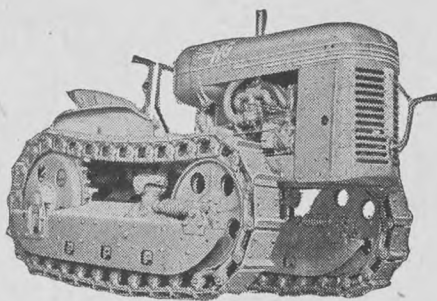
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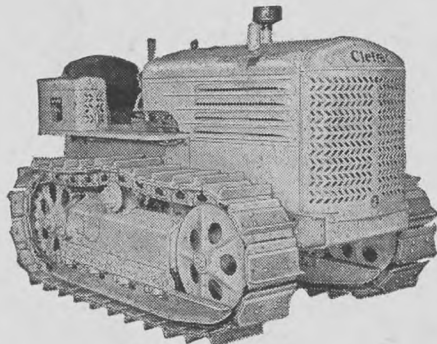
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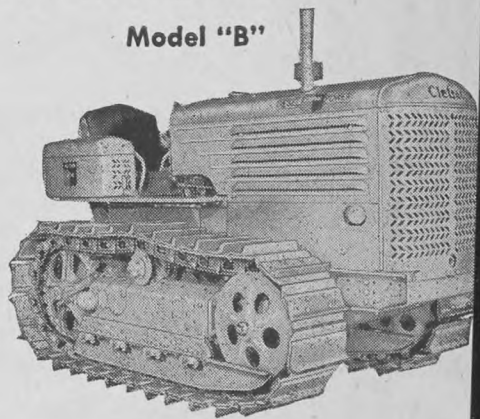
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the teeth of the work horses to make sure that the grinding surface of the molars is normal. If the wear is uneven, treatment may be necessary.

Examination for lice and other parasites is called for if the animals are in poor condition. Soon after spring work begins, too, sore shoulders are likely to occur. Make sure the collar fits correctly and that properly-fitted collars are available for all the horses to be used.

Feed Iodine

LOSSES of livestock due to weak and hairless litters of pigs, goiters in lambs and pigs and joint ill in foals are still common on prairie farms. For years, owners of livestock have been advised that during the winter months normal feed and water consumption on prairie farms will contain an insufficient amount of iodine to maintain livestock in healthy conditions.

For this reason it is necessary to feed potassium iodide in some form and the most convenient method is by the use of iodized salt. Two ounces of this salt in granular form dissolved in a gallon of water will make a stock solution from which each brood sow, for example, should receive a teaspoonful added to her food or drink daily. Double this amount is recommended from the Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon, for brood mares. For breeding ewes, we are told, two ounces of potassium iodide dissolved in a small amount of water and mixed with each 100 pounds of salt will be satisfactory. These additions to feed and water are not expensive, but on the contrary, profitable, since there are few if any areas in the three provinces where iodine may be safely left out of winter rations for breeding stock.

Quality Of Cream In Winter

ALL livestock and dairy officials, to say nothing of creamery managers, have occasion to worry every winter about the bad-flavored cream received from time to time. The reason for this, of course, is that milk and cream absorb odors from the air. If to this fact we add the fact that during the winter months milking cows are closely stabled, sometimes in very poorly ventilated barns and in stanchions that are not cleaned frequently enough, we can understand how bad odors are often found in winter cream in particular.

Of course, the best preventive is to provide as good ventilation as possible and keep the stables clean. The next is to remove the milk from the stable as quickly as possible after milking. Another preventive is the avoidance of strong-flavored feeds. If these must be used they should always be fed after milking.

The Dairy Branch of the Alberta Department of Agriculture points out that the quick cooling of milk or cream is just as essential in winter as in summer, but freezing should be prevented until the milk or cream reaches the dairy plant. Likewise, warm and cold milk or cream should not be mixed, since mixing sometimes results in a bitter flavor in winter.

Beware Of Ergot

THERE is generally some ergot in livestock feeds every year. This disease which infects grasses, barley, wheat and particularly rye among the farm grown grains, produces conspicuous horn-like, purple to black fungus bodies, in place of the seeds. It is present in threshed grains and it is poisonous to both man and animal. Ergot can be largely removed from the grain by suitable cleaning machinery and ergot-infected grain intended for feed should be cleaned very carefully. A field control method, also, is to plow about four inches deep in order to bury the ergot bodies that have fallen to the ground.

Ergot is especially injurious to pregnant animals. The young are sometimes weak or dead, and abortions are often caused. If it is fed for a long time, for example in heavily infected grain that has not been cleaned, a painful gangrene may develop around the ears, tail and perhaps the feet of the animal. Sheep and swine are not so susceptible, but horses and cattle suffer easily. When ergot is eaten in only small quantities it does not seem to affect any class of livestock.

If the livestock producer has grain which he feels he ought to use up, the Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge advises that it be put through a fanning mill, or commercial grain cleaner, to remove as much of the ergot as possible, and that the cleaned grain be then mixed with clean feed so as to dilute the presence of ergot still further. One-tenth of one per cent ergot in seed grains is dan-

Labor-Saving Devices

THE grain producer has had the advantage over the livestock producer during the last few years, because he has been benefited to a greater extent by mechanization. In times when livestock prices may be high, but labor is scarce and high-priced, then the farmers sometimes feel that livestock production requires too much man labor. On the other hand, there are short-cuts to livestock production on many farms, by way of labor-saving ideas and devices, which have been put into profitable use. These vary, of course, from economical methods of making hay in larger quantities to easier ways of doing chores or grinding feed.

The Country Guide would like very much to receive as many of these ideas as our readers can supply. What methods have you tried out that have saved time and money in livestock production? What little short-cuts or labor-saving ideas have you successfully applied? To encourage the exchange of such useful ideas we will pay \$25 for the best labor-saving idea related directly to livestock production received in The Country Guide office by April 1, provided it is clearly explained and accompanied, where necessary, by a sharp, clear photograph, or a sufficiently clear drawing. For each other item received and considered suitable for publication we will pay up to \$5 under the same conditions. Address Livestock Editor, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, Manitoba. Readers may send in as many ideas as they wish—the more the better.

gerous to livestock, and it is pointed out that feeds affected by ergot are usually of lower feed value.

A further prevention is to feed ergot infected grains to non-pregnant animals, watching each animal carefully so as to detect any unfavorable symptoms as soon as possible. There is no medical treatment known which is able to counteract the effect of ergot.

The Brood Sow

STRONG, healthy litters of spring pigs are the result of winter care of the sow, perhaps, as much as the consequence of inherited qualities. Keeping her in moderate flesh is most desirable and W. J. Cuthbert, Dominion Experimental Station, Prince George, B.C., recommends two parts of ground oats and one part each of ground barley and wheat for a satisfactory winter grain ration. Such a ration, however, will not provide sufficient protein, which is not only necessary for the sow's welfare, but for a store of protein against the time when she will be milking. Sows that are too fat are dangerous to their pigs, besides which, litters are likely to be small and weak. An ample supply of protein is much more important than excess fat, and is preferably supplied in the form of skim milk of buttermilk, if this is available, at the rate of 10 to 15 pounds per day. Failing this, tankage or other commercial protein supplements should make up eight to 10 per cent of the grain ration.

Minerals are also needed for the brood sow and in addition to potassium iodide for the prevention of hairlessness, two per cent in the grain ration of equal parts of ground limestone and iodized salt are recommended. The two necessary vitamins for winter feeding, Vitamins A and D, may be secured from clover and alfalfa hay, if it is of high quality; or by using feeding oil. Crude cod liver oil is fed at the rate of a tablespoonful per sow daily and is easily obtained.

Woolblindness

SHEEP with heavily woolled faces have their vision obscured and sometimes the eye tissues are injured. The wool grows over the eyes because someone has neglected to trim it.

The Dominion Range Experiment Station at Manyberries, Alberta, reports that studies of data from Rambouillet sheep show that open-faced ewes produce 10 to 12 more pounds of lamb per ewe per year than woolblind ewes, while open-faced lambs show less neck wrinkling.

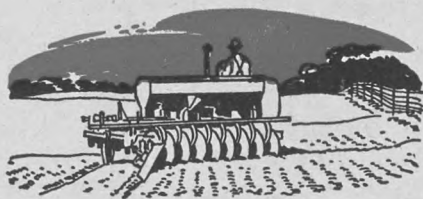
It would appear that wool on the face is strongly heritable. This indicates that it can be eliminated in a flock by selecting open-faced breeding animals. Wool on the face is often short and contaminated with foreign material so that it is not of high commercial value. It is also reported that sheep that are woolblind part of the year do not do as well as others. They are likely to be lost from the band; and under difficult circumstances may die as a result of partial starvation or lack of water. Woolblind lambs, too, are timid and do not eat well.

There is little relationship between face covering and fleece or body weight of ewes, but sheep with the most wool on their faces tend to have the finest fleeces.

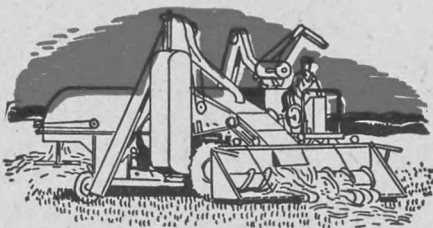


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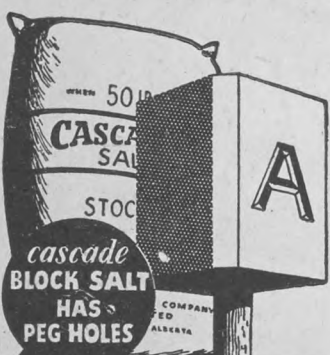
206 GRAIN EXCHANGE BLDG., WINNIPEG

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FIELD



[Photo: Nat. Film Board]

Seeding at Rush Lake, Sask. Large farms and mechanized equipment require pre-season preparation and careful management to offset high capital risk.

The Control Of Wild Oats

An unusual method that worked well on a large acreage, but cannot always be applied.

IT is probable that of all the weeds with which farmers in western Canada must contend, the wild oat is on the whole responsible for the most loss of revenue. This is partly true because it is present on so many farms that it is pretty much taken for granted, and partly because there is no really effective and at the same time practical method of complete eradication—or if there is it has not been very well publicized.

A brief talk with Frank May of Oberon, Manitoba, a short time ago brought to light an interesting experience which he and his brother had some years ago. He had bought a section of land adjoining his farm on the north, which was badly polluted, and was having considerable difficulty in getting the wild oats under control. The successful method which he utilized later, he got accidentally from a neighbor.

He was over at the neighbor's one day and was invited into the house. He suggested that before they went in, it might be as well to run the sheep out of the flax field adjacent to the buildings, "Oh," said the neighbor, "I put them in there deliberately, to keep down the wild oats." He then told Mr. May how he was using sheep for this purpose, and it was later applied with very satisfactory results on the May farm. It is not a cure-all for wild oats, or a method of complete elimination. However, it worked in this case, and it would probably work with equal satisfaction in other similar circumstances.

"On one half-section we had summerfallow on one part and on the adjoining part we decided to seed flax," said Mr. May. "The land for flax was fall plowed, and in the spring it was cultivated once or twice before seeding in order to start and kill as many of the wild oats as possible by this method. We then seeded the flax, and when the crop was about three inches high turned a band of about 200 sheep into the field, under the care of a herder. They would not touch the flax, but loved the wild oats, and kept the ground almost as bare as a floor between the flax drills, until we took them out immediately after the bloom

dropped and before the bolls were formed.

"We calculate we lost about one-third of the flax crop, as a result of having the sheep in it. On the other hand, the sheep had good pasture, and controlled the wild oats."

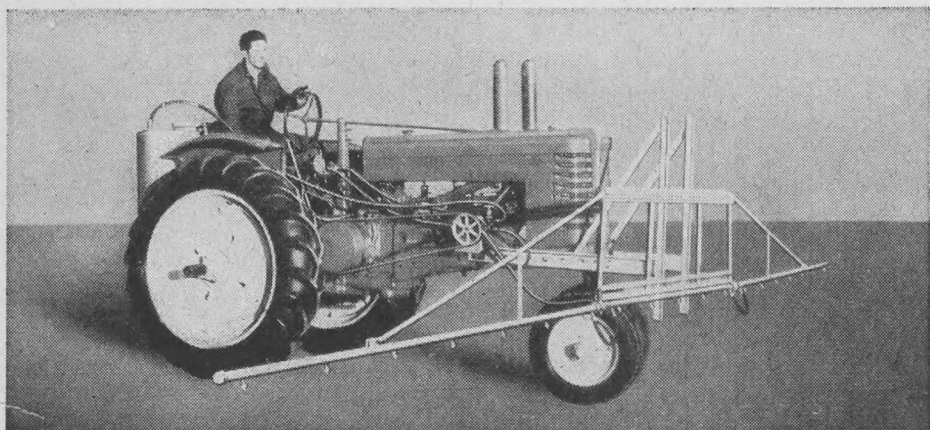
Mr. May pointed out that this method would not be satisfactory in a fenced field into which the sheep could be turned. They would tend to stay near the building and trample the crop at that end of the field. Likewise, if there should be a patch of sowthistle in the field, they would make for it first thing and completely ruin the crop in the vicinity. Herding was necessary because the practice was to turn the sheep into the summerfallow and carry them down to the far end of the field, then let them drift easily into the flax and work their way back gradually, which they would do without much injury to the flax crop. It was necessary, also, to have some alternate pasture into which they could be turned after, say, three or four days in the flax field. In practice it worked out that the sheep might be in the flax three or four days, and out for six or eight days, then back again. This was enough to keep down the wild oats. That year an eight-bushel flax crop was harvested.

This method would not be very satisfactory with a small acreage because it would not pay to hire a herder. At the present time, said Mr. May, it probably would not work with a large acreage either, because it would be almost impossible to get a careful herder who would be satisfied to do the job. In any case, taking the sheep out at the right time is important. If they are left in until after the boll is formed, flax plants are sometimes bent down low, as the sheep drag their feet along as they walk, and the bolls get hooked behind another plant so that they cannot stand erect again. This means that the flax on the bent stalks cannot be harvested.

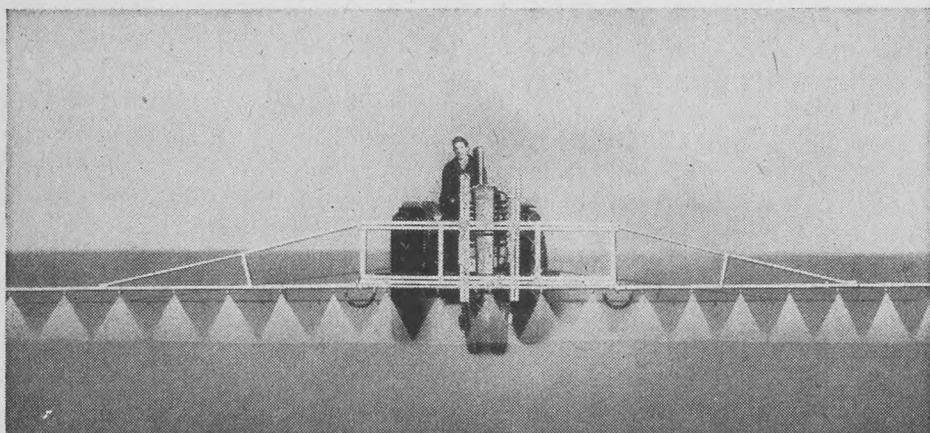
Choosing Cereal Varieties

A LIST of the more common hard red and white spring wheats grown in Canada contains the names of 45 varieties. Oats and barley

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FIRST LOOK at the tractor mounted model with that full 30-foot, 1-inch aluminum boom pipe which mounts on ANY tractor. Then see how it's braced...right out to the ends...so it won't whip when the going's rough. Going through gates or lanes? Just fold back the two outside 11-foot booms and your outfit is only 8 feet wide...the width of the sturdy, stationary centre boom.



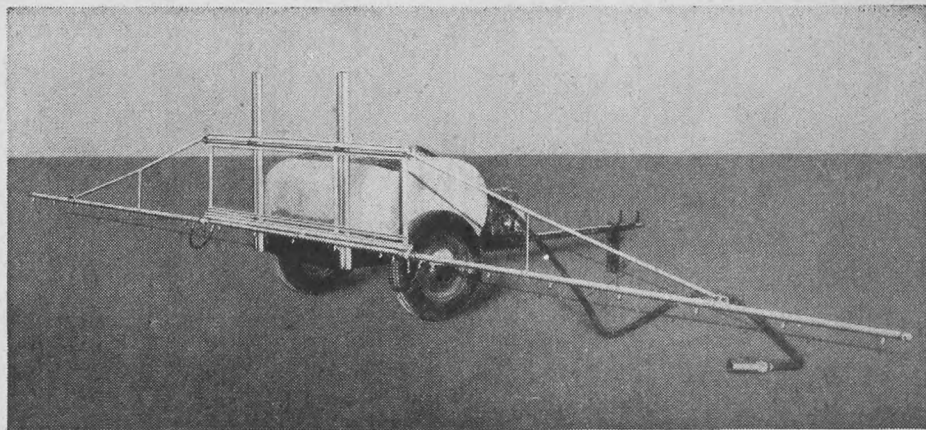
AND WATCH those low-gallage nozzles at work! Talk about easy on the water supply! Only 5 gallons of liquid per acre with these Teejet nozzles. Yet your Eco Sprayer lays down a uniform spray pattern even on rough, hilly ground. Boom delivery is all controlled from your tractor seat, too. And it's simply and easily adjusted for height.

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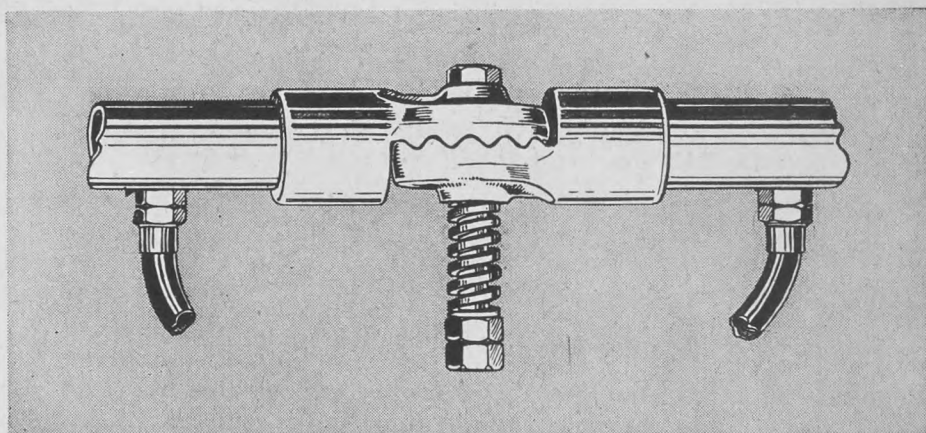
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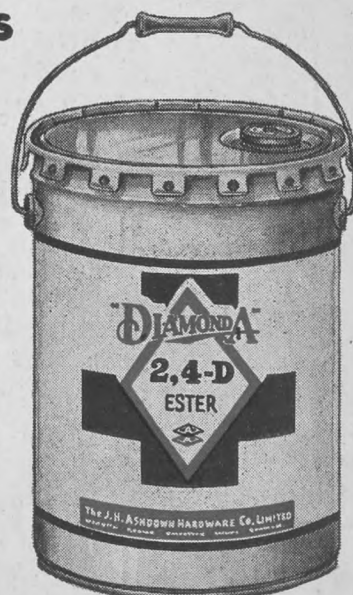
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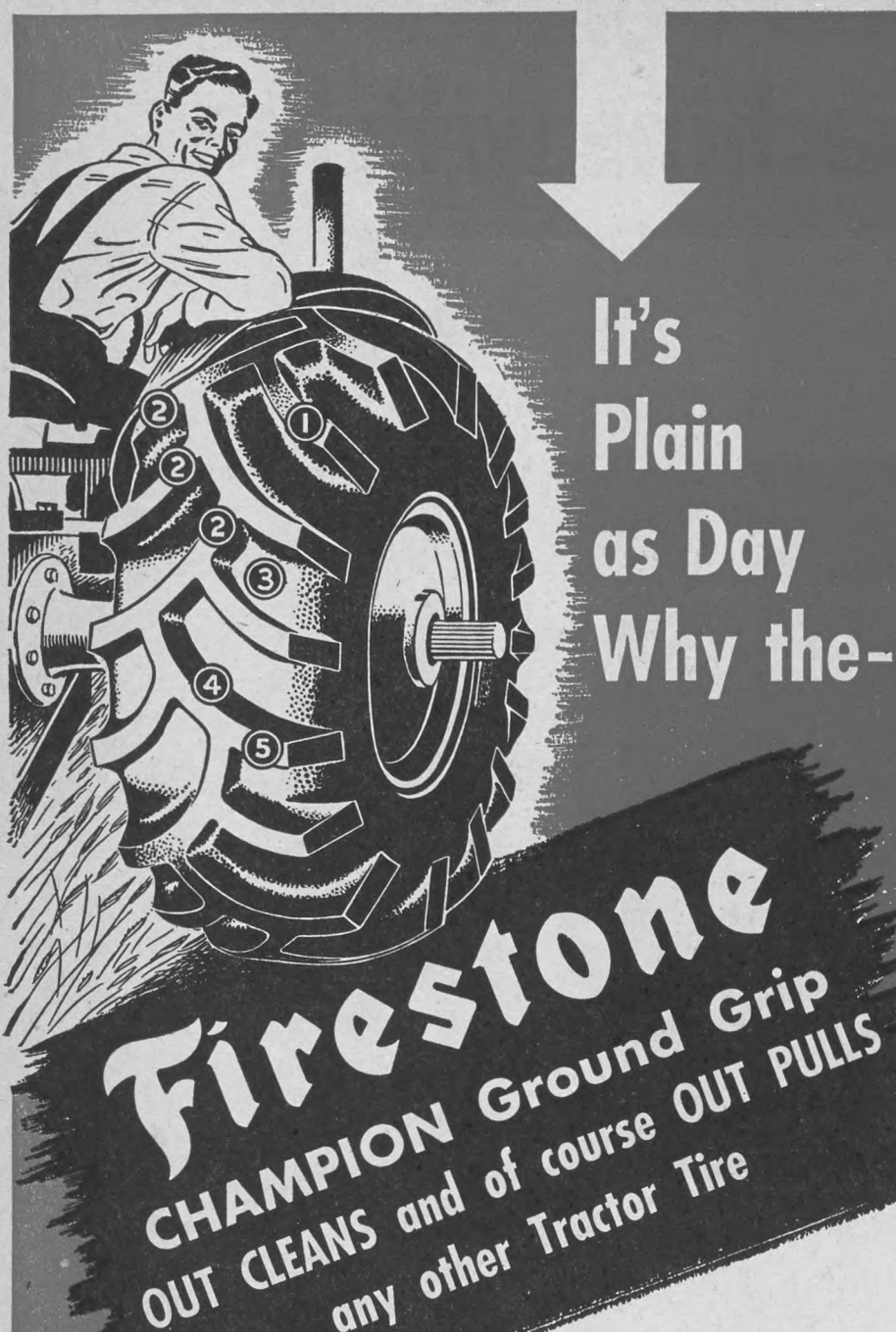
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It's Plain as Day Why the- Firestone
CHAMPION Ground Grip
OUT CLEANS and of course OUT PULLS
any other Tractor Tire

It outcleans and, of course, outpulls because the traction bars curve outward from the centre of the tire to make a wide open exit for mud and trash which are easily forced out of the tread wells by the rolling, flexing action of the tire.

It outcleans and, of course, outpulls because it has no open centres to catch trash which is generally the foundation for a completely filled up tire. Instead of filling up, the Champion Ground Grip remains clean and takes a "centre bite" right in the heart of the traction zone.

It outcleans and, of course, outpulls because the tread wells are contoured to eliminate those sharp corners, angles and flat surfaces where mud and dirt could wedge and stick. There are no mud pockets.

It outcleans and, of course, outpulls because the tread bars are up to 24% higher. They take a deep, clean bite which forestalls slippage. A tread that does its work without slipping does not fill up. A tire that does not take a deep, full bite is the one that fills up.

It outcleans and, of course, outpulls because the traction bars are longer—up to 256" more bar length per tractor. Here again, greater bar length means a bigger, firmer bite—and as a certain result, perfect cleaning because there is no spinning.

...And because it OUT CLEANS and takes a CENTRE BITE the FIRESTONE CHAMPION OUT PULLS every other tractor tire

varieties are about as numerous, with flax varieties somewhat fewer in number. The large number of varieties is due to local and regional variations in soil and climate. Varying problems have been met by the development or introduction of cereal varieties.

The efforts of plant breeders to improve varieties can lead to some confusion on the part of the growers, as to the variety recommended for his particular locality. Tests are being constantly carried out to determine the variety best suited to soil and climate in all areas in western Canada.

The work on varieties is reviewed annually by the Cereal Variety Committees. Wherever possible the official recommendations of the committee are limited to one variety of each kind of grain for each locality. However, in many cases this does not seem desirable, and two or three optional varieties are listed.

The Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask., advises that these recommendations can be obtained in printed form from agricultural institutions and from agricultural representative offices. The most recent recommendations for Saskatchewan are included in the revised Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan.

Farm Records Profitable

MEMBERS of the Southeastern Minnesota Farm Management Association are satisfied that they are able to improve their business by keeping records. For the past 20 years the Association has included an average of 157 record-keeping dairy farmers in 14 southeastern Minnesota counties. Their annual records are analyzed by the University of Minnesota, and suggestions for improvements in farm organization and management are made. The members pay a fee for this service.

It is not possible to distinguish accurately between changes farmers have made as a result of their records, and those they might have made anyway. However, quite a few changes have been made.

The average size of the farms increased from 163 acres in 1928 to approximately 225 acres in recent years. Livestock increased from 31.1 animal units in 1928 to 42.5 in 1947. The number of animal units per 100 acres increased from 19.2 for the first three years to 22.9 for the last three years. The average butterfat production per cow was 241 pounds in 1928 and 271 pounds per cow in 1947. In 1928 egg production on the farms studied was 15 per cent below the estimate for the whole state, but by 1947 they were ahead of the state by a narrow margin.

In 1928 tractors were owned on only 47 per cent of the farms. In 1947 all were equipped with tractors, and many had two or more. In spite of increases in acres and livestock per farm, no more labor was employed in 1947 than had been in 1928. This was largely attributable to the increased productivity of labor due to mechanization and labor saving practises.

It is interesting to note that in the 1928 to 1930 period the total value of farm sales by the operators keeping records averaged \$2,303 more than the average sales per farm for all farms in Minnesota, while in the 1942-47 period total sales by farmers keeping records exceeded the state average by \$6,156. Through the whole 20-year

period studied the average gross income of the farmers who kept records was more than double that of all farmers in the state. Income was more stable, falling less in periods of low prices and rising less when prices rose.

It is impossible to suggest any exact mathematical figure that indicates the increase in returns due to keeping and analyzing farm business records. However, a careful survey made in three counties gives a clear indication. Of those included in the survey farmers keeping no records realized an average labor earning of \$1,334, those keeping records two to five years, \$1,840, and those keeping records over five years, \$2,340. The whole difference cannot be ascribed to the records, but the farmers who kept the records indicated that they considered them a very important factor in increasing farm returns.

Good Farm Extension

IT would appear that the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture has hit upon a sound policy for bringing to the agricultural departments a much needed extension of hay and grass crops.

From Field and Crops Commissioner Harold Horner, we learned that the department is more than pleased with the results of efforts begun in the winter of 1946-1947, to make it easier for Saskatchewan farmers to seed down small acreages to brome and alfalfa. The idea was evolved of securing quantities of good seed of these two outstanding hay and pasture crops, mixing them in the proper proportions for seeding under Saskatchewan conditions, and offering the seed to farmers of the province at the figure of say, \$2.00 per acre. Individual farmers then order seed for 10, 20 or 30 acres as the case may be, pay for it and it arrives ready-mixed.

This year, we are informed, 2,000 orders were received for this mixture averaging about 15 acres per order. What is even more surprising and at the same time satisfying, is that fully 25 per cent of these orders came from south of the main line of the C.P.R., and at least half of the total orders from the southern part of the province.

The Department, we understand, has no idea of going into the seed business, but believes that its function is to establish, by experiment, methods of determining sound farm practises, try them out for a long enough period to establish their practicability, and then permit co-operative organizations or private traders to carry on. It is to be hoped that in the course of a few years' time the cultivated hay and pasture area of the province can be approximately doubled. This should mean an increase from around 300,000 acres at present, to well over half a million acres.

Soil Management

ANALYSES of soils in Manitoba, conducted by the Dominion Experimental Farm at Brandon, reveal that in their virgin state grassland soils contained from 10 to 20 per cent of organic matter. Similar analyses indicate that after 60 to 80 years of grain cropping the content has been reduced to about five per cent. In many fields the original root fibre that held the soils together has been almost entirely depleted, with nothing being done to replace it.

G. R. Sterling, supervisor of soil conservation, Alberta Department of Agriculture, says that to conserve soils we must learn to work with nature instead of against her. The principles of natural soil conservation must be followed and needless loss of moisture and fertility avoided.

The use of a good rotation will help in the accomplishment of this end. A good rotation should restore fibre and fertility through the use of grasses and legumes. It must be of such a nature and duration that it lends itself to other farming projects. To be satisfactory it must include cereal or other cash crops, while allowing control of undesirable plants with a minimum of cultivation, spraying or dusting.

Buy Good Seed

This is a good year to start buying registered seed. In most parts of western Canada it is very plentiful and, in relation to the price of commercial grain, is relatively low-priced. Moreover, the earlier in the season seed is obtained, the better.

There are very many ways by which money can be made or lost on the farm. Prices are not the only influence on the net income at the end of the year. The use of seed, however, is a logical first step in planning for high yields. It is not everything, but it is one of several important factors which includes quality and fertility of soil, the preparation of seed bed, the absence of weeds and favorable weather conditions. Failure in any one of these factors may mean loss of the crop or a costly loss of yield.

Sixth Share For Man Labor

Crop share arrangement varies greatly as between farms, and the number of complications arising from various degrees of ownership and amounts of labor supplied is considerable. Here is a case which illustrates this fact.

A Saskatchewan farmer was renting a section of land, one-third of the crop going to the landlord. He bought another half-section, paying on the half-crop basis. He was also operating the farm with his son, each doing half the work, but the father owning all machinery, tractors, combine, truck and car. The son boarded at home. Question: What share of the crop should the son get?

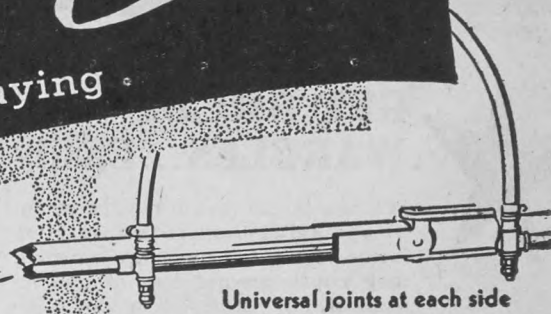
In this case the son supplied only labor, and on a grain farm man labor should receive about one-sixth share of all the crops grown. The son supplied half the labor and was therefore entitled to about one-twelfth share of crop, including the amount reserved for feed and seed, as well as the amount turned over to the vendor of the purchased half-section and to the landlord of the section leased on a one-third crop basis. Under this arrangement, hired labor should be paid for by both equally, unless part of this labor is needed to relieve father or son owing to sickness, accident or other causes. In such cases the party so relieved should pay for the labor hired to take his place.

The question of board would be a matter of mutual agreement. Probably the fair settlement would be for the son to pay a moderate amount for board and share the cost of boarding hired help. Circumstances, however, could vary considerably so that mutual agreement in this case is essential.

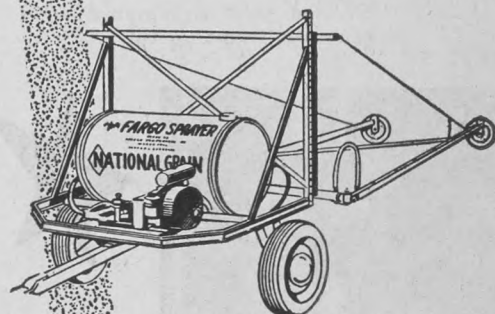
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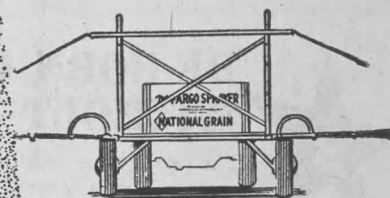
Boom protected against damage by roller-bearing buffer wheels.



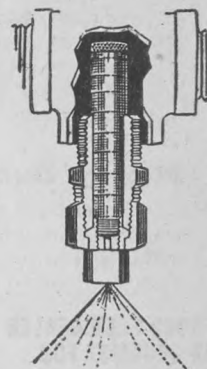
Universal joints at each side of frame allow free boom action.



Boom in carrying position, no uncoupling necessary.



Extra width of trailer gives greater stability: eliminates boom whip.



Exclusive new nozzle design showing screen set deep in boom.



Caster wheels, for spraying uneven ground available.

A TRULY AMAZING NEW SPRAY RIG!

Here's a spray rig designed with one object in mind—to give progressive farmers the utmost in efficiency, rugged construction, convenience in operation, and dollar value!

NEW BOOM PRINCIPLE

The new boom, of 2-inch seamless steel tubing, acts as a support only. An acid-resistant all-bronze, rustproof, non-corrosive 33-foot pipe is fixed to the boom, and carries the chemical. The boom is attached on each side of the frame with rugged universal joints, permitting free action and allowing the boom to be folded back into the carrying position without uncoupling.

NEW EXTRA BOOM SUPPORT

Sturdy, roller-bearing buffer wheels protect each end of the boom against damage. Boom is supported by cross-braces to frame; heavy cables to top of frame; and universal joints. In addition, extra wide spacing of trailer wheels eliminates boom whip.

NEW TRAILER DESIGN

Main frame of structural steel "T" beams, electrically welded throughout, and strongly cross-braced. Built to give years of rugged service. Trailer is wider and shorter for greater stability and manoeuvrability. Weight distributed to give 3-point suspension. Spray can be easily controlled from tractor seat.

NEW NOZZLE AND FILTER EFFICIENCY

Entirely new principle of design in the new Fargo nozzle, eliminates clogging—can't rust, corrode or wear; quickly dismantled for inspection. New simple adjustment makes it easy to line up spray with boom when reassembling. Under rigid test and comparison proved by far the best 2, 4-D nozzle made today. Standard nozzles spray 4 gallons per acre; larger tips available.

This sprayer is also equipped with 4 separate fine-mesh strainers to ensure continuous, non-stop spraying.

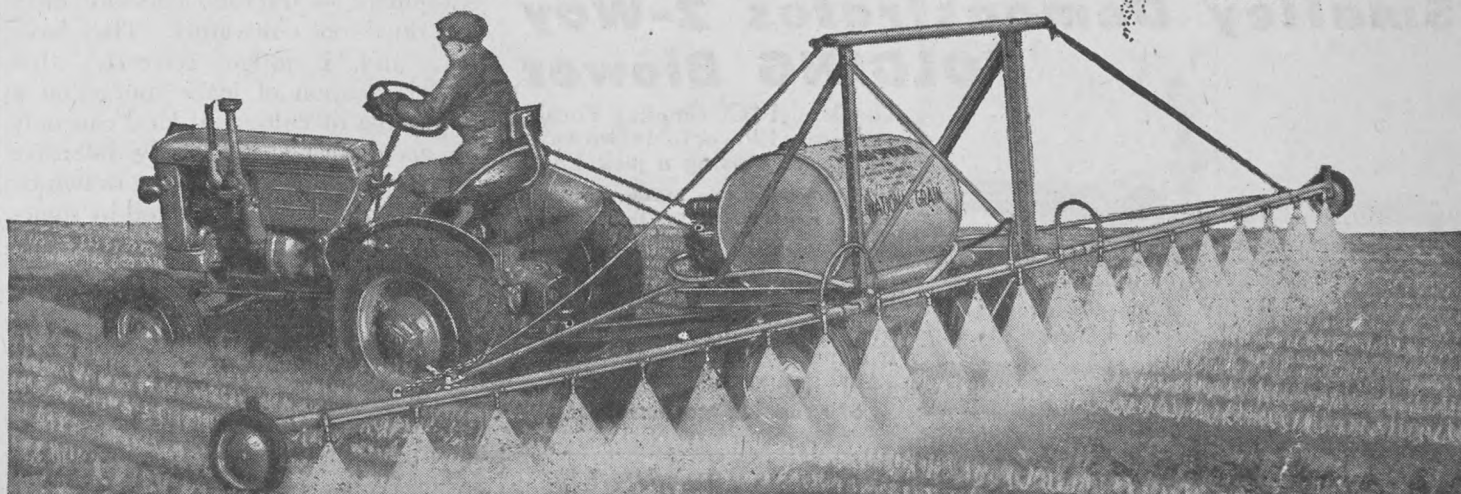
For detailed information and illustrated folder, see your local National Elevator Manager, appointed dealer, or write direct. National Grain handle a complete line of Chemicals and Spraying equipment for all weed and insect control.

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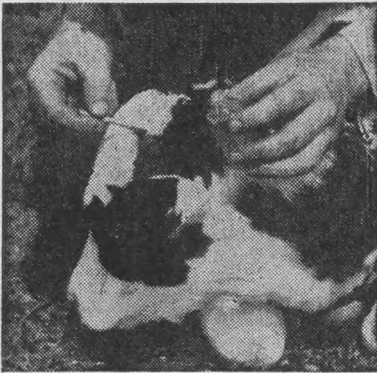
★ GET RID OF WARBLER... Easily

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★ GET MORE MILK PER TON OF FEED

To get more milk per ton of feed... both now and next summer... mix 2 lbs. Dr. Hess Stock Tonic with each 100 lbs. of dairy ration (or have your dealer mix it). In one split-herd test, cows that got Stock Tonic averaged 2,625 lbs. more milk per cow, and 676 lbs. more milk per ton of dairy ration, than cows on same ration without Stock Tonic... in normal 10-month lactation period.



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For dairymen who prefer polled cows, here's one of the finest products obtainable... Dr. Hess "Pol" (pronounced "pole"). When applied to horn buttons, when calves are 3 to 10 days old, it positively stops horn growth... yet it doesn't cause any of the burning or oozing that is so objectionable with old-time caustic. No danger to calf's face or eyes, no set-back in body growth. One man, alone, can apply it. A small bottle treats 10 calves.

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All Dr. Hess products are sold with a positive money-back guarantee. If used as directed, over a reasonable period of time, and if you are not satisfied that they pay, your Dr. Hess dealer is authorized to refund the full purchase price.



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Leafy Spurge

Continued from page 9

per pound) is borne jointly by the Manitoba government and municipalities and the cost of application by the municipality alone, with no cost to the farmer. In all, 20 weed spray machines are operated in the 18 weed-control units combined. The 70 municipalities involved used 400,000 pounds of chemical in 1947 and 422,000 pounds in 1948.

OF somewhat more spectacular interest, though not necessarily of greater value, is the intensive cultivation program applied on large areas of spurge-infested land. The Manitoba Act provides that wherever any land within a municipality is infested with class 1 weeds (leafy spurge, field bind weed, hoary cress, and Russian knapweed) the council may declare the land to be a weed-infested area, in which case they can actually authorize a weed inspector to take possession of, and occupy, such land (not the buildings) and completely exclude the owner or tenant from its management, until it has been declared free of the noxious weed. Any proceeds from crops grown on such land by the municipality must be applied against its costs. Any surplus of revenue above costs and taxes accruing over the period of municipal control is returned to the person entitled to it. Under this provision of the act 23 Manitoba properties totalling 3,000 acres have been taken over by municipalities since 1942. Three of these properties, involving 600 acres, have since been returned to the farmer, free of leafy spurge. For one of these located in the municipality of Portage la Prairie, I was not able to obtain the net results in dollars, but a second 320-acre farm, owned by an estate, and located in the municipality of Victoria provided revenue in excess of expenses amounting to \$3,000 over the five-year control period. In addition to this, the value of the land had been increased from approximately \$5 to about \$25 per acre. For the third farm, returned after five years free of leafy spurge and located in the municipality of Turtle Mountain, the receipts from the 178 acres exceeded expenses by \$1,060. In this case also there was a similar increase in the value of the land directly resulting from the improvement in its productive value. Surely these complete results to date indicate marked benefit both to the owner and to the community.

Not all of the properties that have been actually taken over and "occupied" by the municipality, are handled in the same way. Three of the municipalities, for example, own their own equipment — tractors, one-way discs and duck-foot cultivators. They have felt, and I judge correctly, that the eradication of leafy spurge on a large area of cultivated land can only be accomplished by really intensive cultivation. Good equipment, drawn by sufficient power and operated by someone directly responsible to the municipal authorities, will mean a better and a quicker clean up job. In other cases reliance has been placed on individuals, believed to be reliable and thorough, who were engaged to do the necessary work at custom rates, thus eliminating the necessity of purchasing expensive tractors and equipment. In

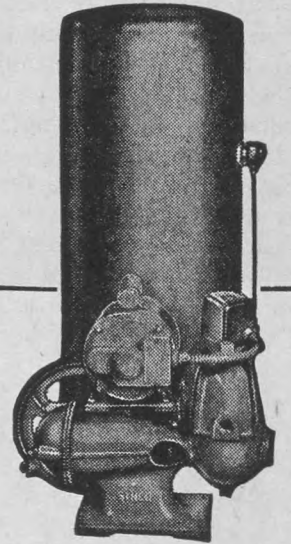
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Aching Feet

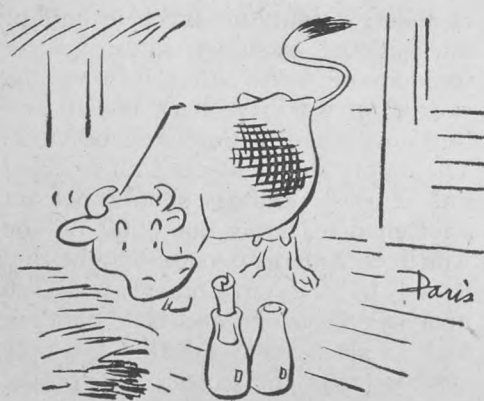
A warm bath, anoint with Dr. Chase's Ointment and the stinging, irritation disappears. Strongly antiseptic and medicinal, soothes and heals.

Dr. Chase's Ointment

one, or perhaps two cases, the owners of the land were permitted to operate the farm or portion of the farm that was officially possessed by the municipality, but this is rarely done. I visited one such farm which the owner had purchased a few years ago at a very low price. Not realizing his fields were so seriously infested, nor the noxious quality of leafy spurge, and without too much capital available, he was attempting to do the necessary work with too little power and with old equipment. He was not getting the necessary results and eventually it became an either-or proposition. Naturally he wanted to operate his own land, but he could not finance both a new and sufficiently powerful tractor and implements, and the fuel and oil to go with them. Arrangement was finally made whereby he was assisted financially by the municipality and allowed to continue. The result in 1948, the following year, was a very definite improvement, and incidentally, a total farm revenue from this farm of probably twice the original purchase price of the land. Proper weed control seems to pay.

ON another farm I was able to visit, two types of leafy spurge control were in effect, owing primarily to the nature of the soil, which was very light and sandy. Four fields are involved, one of which was very badly infested and was close-pastured with sheep for four years. At the end of this period not a single leafy spurge plant could be found. Another 120-acre field, once cultivated, had reverted to a woody growth 18 inches to 3 feet high. This field was broken with a one-way, cultivated with a narrow-tooth, followed by wide-toothed cultivator and had been gone over six times when I saw it in mid-September. The plan was to give it two more cultivations in 1948, cultivate and seed to grain this spring, give plenty of after-harvest cultivation next fall, summerfallow it in 1950, and have it free of spurge by the spring of 1951. The 1949 crop will probably be sprayed with 2,4-D to help weaken the weeds; and any patches along the fence lines and road allowances will be sprayed with Atlacide.

Another half-section farm in the southern part of the province had been divided into three pieces by the owner for more efficient control. It was badly infested and the first piece had been under treatment for three years, a second piece of 50 acres for two years, and a third piece of 120 acres was under first year treatment. It had been subjected to 13 operations in 1948, including the plow, one-way, the narrow-tooth and wide-tooth cultivator, and the harrow. On this farm also, the three-year piece had been gone over seven times last year. This is what is called intensive cultivation and is the price that must be paid for the neglect of previous years.

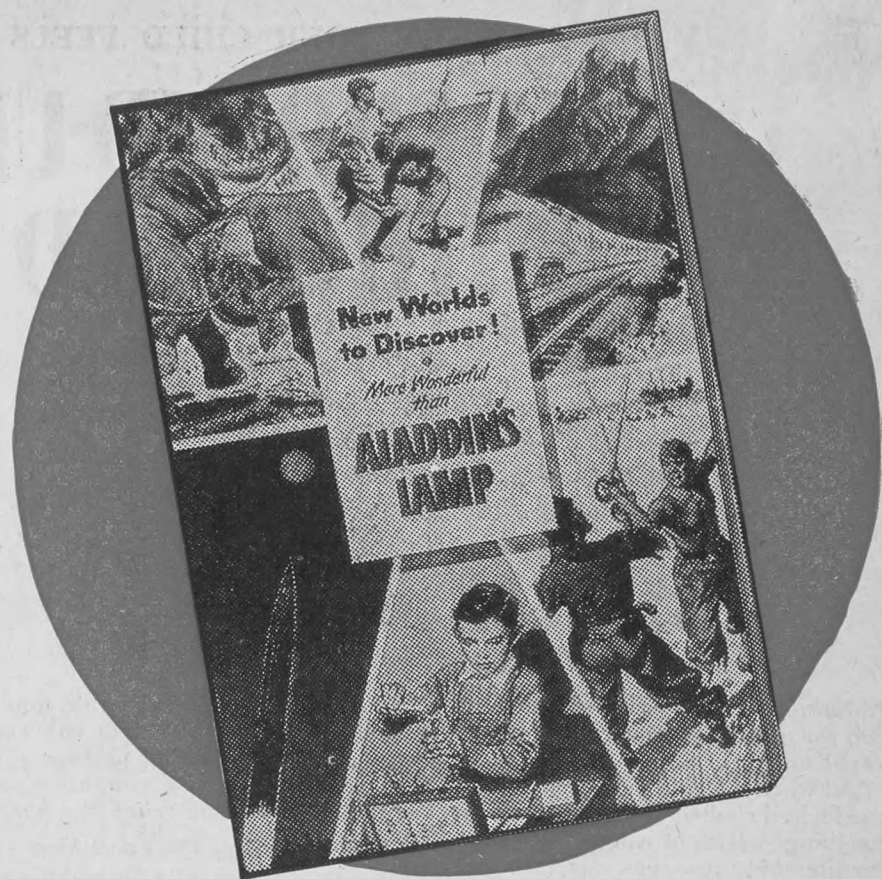


NOT far away was another field cropped this year to Durum wheat, which in 1946 was given over entirely to leafy spurge. It was plowed in the spring of 1947, cultivated with narrow and wide-tooth cultivator a total of nine or ten times, and seeded last year. I noticed on another farm, farther north in the province, which was owned by a mortgage company, and part of which was almost solid spurge, that a very excellent job was being done by a careful operator employed by the municipality and using municipally owned machinery. The soil was very light and in one piece it was necessary to seed twice to brome and crested wheat grass before anything could be tied down. It had been proved already that this soil was good for 25 bushels of wheat per acre, and at the time of our visit the operator was using a one-way on stubble very carefully, so as to leave as much stubble mulch as possible. Most of the leafy spurge had been eliminated where he was working, but he was careful to mark the position of each plant he had noticed by a lath sticking up in the field. There were not many of them.

We visited another field, elsewhere, which was badly infested, but which had not yet been taken over. Here the owner or tenant was attempting to control the spurge with poor equipment. The cultivator was leaving plenty of it behind, partly because it would not do good work and partly because the spurge had been allowed to grow too long between cultivations. Farmers of Manitoba are beginning to learn that once they let leafy spurge get a foothold, it is quite willing to take over the land completely. Moreover, if the owner later changes his mind, or the municipality changes it for him, and wants the land back into use, the spurge will fight hard and unless absolutely killed out, will come back again.

This Manitoba program is an interesting and practical development in weed control. Its weaknesses, if any, seems to lie with the human element, with municipal councils who will not institute a weed control program, or perhaps not pursue it vigorously. Nevertheless, the 70 Manitoba municipalities have something of importance to show for their co-operation with the provincial government. Aside from these large scale intensive cultivation programs, many thousands of leafy spurge patches have been eliminated (22,145 in 1947 alone). This is expensive work, costing a total of \$53,592.98 in that year, of which the municipalities paid \$37,642.72. This, however, included the cost of equipment, trucks, labor and chemicals. It involved 6,800 hours of spraying on 2,162 widely scattered farms averaging about 10 patches of spurge per farm, each patch averaging something more than 100 square yards and costing \$2.42 per patch to spray. They represented in this year, the equivalent of a 100 per cent infestation on more than 650 acres.

Six years is too short a period in which to solve a problem which has taken 75 years to develop. It is long enough, however, to show that the job can be done, and to prove that the weight of the community behind law enforcement is needed, if weed losses are to be reduced to a practical minimum.



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Surplus Spuds

Continued from page 10

growers. "You work with the dealers?" I asked. "At least, we try to get the dealers to work with us," he replied. He agreed with Mr. King and Mr. Webb. There is no telling what it will cost or whether it will cost anything or not.

Weren't those the grand old days when discussions or controversies on trade centred on the simple matter of the tariff? Maritime potato growers could pay the tariff and be money ahead. It isn't a question of tariffs. Their potatoes were being piped into the U.S.A. under the waxed and polished price floor and the chute was promptly stopped up. There are more ways of killing a cat than choking it with margarine and there are more ways of hampering trade than imposing tariffs. In this case trade wasn't hobbled; it was knocked on the head. It makes you wonder if there are any other Canadian commodities which may suffer the same fate for the same reason.

But Canada has played that game too, as when Mr. Abbott blandly announced via CBC that he was stopping certain importations from the United States, including fresh vegetables. In that case it was the dearth of American dollars which induced the drastic action. Fortunately for the Americans they hadn't a big surplus of the prohibited articles and they survived the blow. Canadians also contrived to remain alive. Since the days of the early fur traders several generations of Canucks have reached vigorous adulthood without eating fresh celery from Florida in February and without the aid of electrical kitchen gadgets. In fact a lot of them are still doing it.

If such situations can crop up between two such like-minded and like-moneyed countries as Canada and the United States, what about them and the rest of the world? For Wendell Wilkie's One World is now three worlds. One half is hidden behind the Iron Curtain. The other, the more or less democratic half, is split up the back into hard and soft money areas and getting goods ferried from one to the other is giving many a statesman, and near-statesman, a nervous headache. The Marshall Plan helps overcome the difficulty by making international trade a one-way street. Uncle Sam provides the goods, pays the shipping charges and sends the bill to the American tax payer. Marshall asked for \$17,000 million and Congress voted him an advance of over \$6,000 million, with more to come as needed, and that is a lot of kale in either hard money or soft.

CANADA also has been playing her part in this give-away program. Whether it is Simon-pure, large hearted, open-handed benevolence, or top flight strategy in the sub-zero war against communism or a combination of both, doesn't alter the fact that but for the Marshall Plan goods would now be backing up from the Eastern seaboard as they had begun to do early in 1920. Some of us can recall what happened to prices that fall.

But what has all this to do with C. J. Sweeney? Neither of us had missed the bus and as the Saint John River valley scenery flowed past we talked potatoes. He has 30 acres of

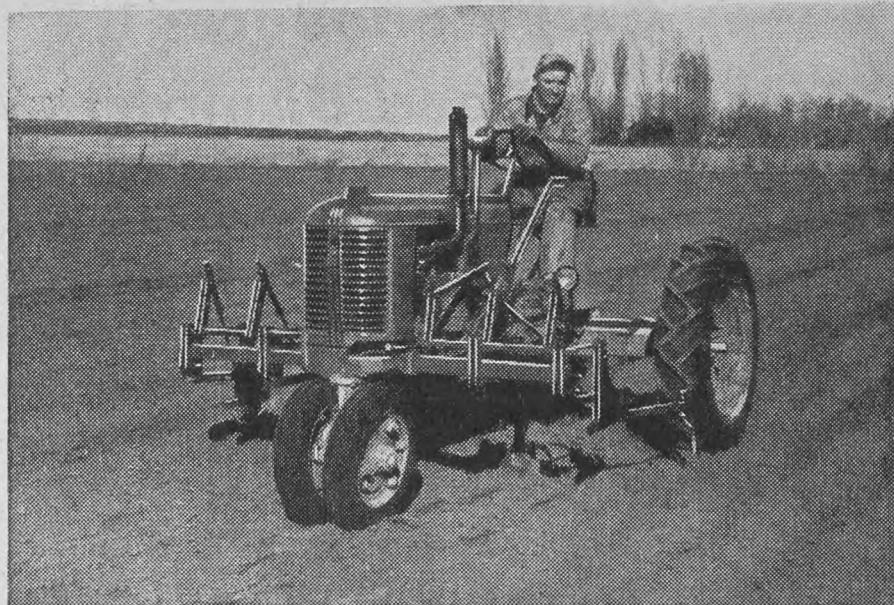
them in pit on his farm in the N.B. potato belt. His worry is how he is going to finance this year's crop if he has to wait till midsummer for a government cheque for last year's crop. It has this to do with Mr. Sweeney's predicament: His potatoes are surplus. That there are hundreds of millions of hungry bellies in the world doesn't alter the fact one iota. There are enough hungry bellies in the world to accommodate all the N.B. and P.E.I. surplus potatoes between sunrise and evening star of any one day but if the growers can't sell their potatoes they have a surplus and no philosophizing about world deficits will make it look like anything else to them.

When there is a surplus food product in this country there are two ways of getting rid of it. One way is to destroy it, as will be done with any surplus potatoes left over next spring. The other is to ship it out of the country, now or later. When it is shipped out it enters international trade.

If an atom bomb could be designed to blast all the tariff walls in the world into rubble it would be a good thing eventually, though it might dislocate other things besides tariff walls in the meantime. But there are these other obstacles to trade. If the hungry nations haven't any money, or the right kind of money; nor other goods to ship in return for our potatoes or other goods; nor adequate transportation facilities to distribute them if we gave them away; or if they are so busy killing each other that they haven't time to worry about people dying of hunger; or if they haven't political know-how enough to provide themselves with stable government, so that their industry, and consequently their foreign trade suffers from pernicious anemia, or if they hate us so much that they won't trade with us—if they suffer from any or all of these afflictions they can't take surplus potatoes or any other kind of surplus off our hands, their people will be chronically hungry and surpluses will appear and reappear in countries that can produce them.

BOTH the hunger problem and the surplus problem have still to be solved. The hunger problem can never be fully solved. The world already has 500 or 600 million more people than it can properly feed. They are increasing at the rate of 12 or 15 million a year. Even the war and all its massacres made scarcely a quiver in the upward curve of the line on a graph showing the world's population increase. The gnawing pain of hunger is causing, at this moment, more human misery than all other causes combined. To assuage it is the world's greatest problem. To even partially solve that problem there must first be a settled or comparatively settled world order. There must be peace and stable government; stability of currencies and of international exchange rates; greater freedom of trade. All this after the ravages of war have been healed and the devastated nations rehabilitated. The empty stomachs can't all be filled but at least potatoes should not rot on Canadian farms nor \$600 million worth of American corn bought and stored by the government while so many men, women and little children find in sleep, or in death, the only surcease from the pangs of starvation.

Where irrigation brings sure production and new crops to Western Canada, the Case Model "VAC" is fast becoming a favorite. Here is a light 2-plow tractor with heavy-duty engine—power that hangs on, performance that lasts.



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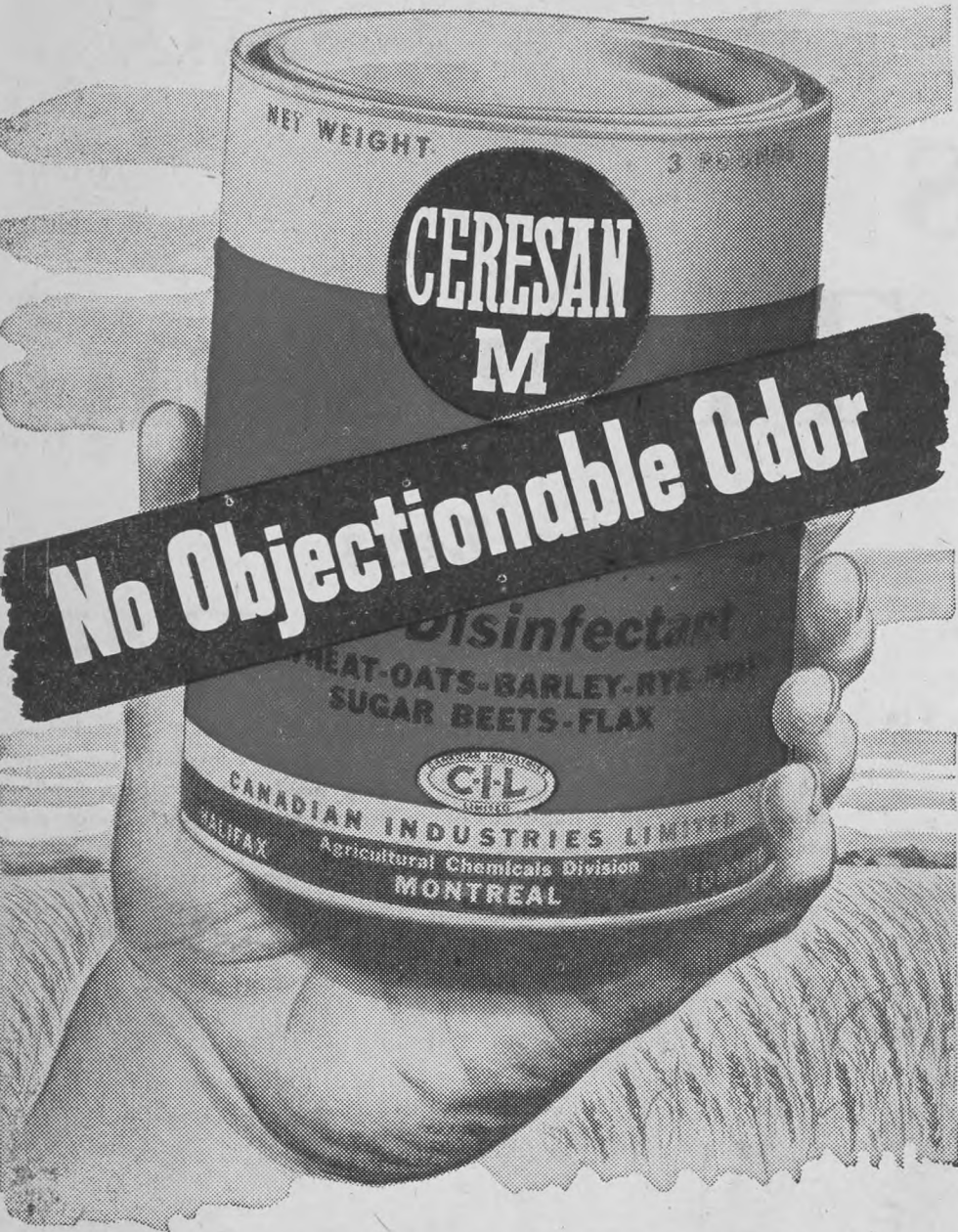


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Re-drawing Political Lines At Coast

Anything to beat the rising tide of Socialism is the common refrain in business circles.

by CHAS. L. SHAW

BRITISH Columbians have been hearing a great deal lately about the "threat" of Socialist domination of government and industry. Just why there should be this anxiety at a time when the coalition of Liberals and Conservatives has had no great difficulty in winning most of the by-elections is hard to imagine, but with the annual session of the legislature coming up discussion invariably turns to politics and there is no denying the fact that should the present government be defeated the automatic alternative is a government of Socialists.

The present situation has revived consideration of the single transferable vote, and some action on this proposal may be taken during the coming session of the legislature. This voting system isn't entirely new to the prairie provinces, but it has never been tried in British Columbia and it is believed that it would be singularly applicable there should politics on the west coast revert to the pre-war three-party setup.

Young Liberals are growing restless over the continuation of the wartime alliance of their party with the Conservatives, and coalition is not entirely popular with some of the Tories either because they think they might have a better opportunity out of partnership with the Grits than under the present arrangement wherein they play a subordinate role.

It has been demonstrated on several occasions that when Liberals and Conservatives run separate candidates they split the non-Socialist vote and the C.C.F. wins. The single transferable vote, theoretically anyway, would prevent victory by a minority group, because the voters would have a chance to register their preference of candidates in one, two, three order.

The C.C.F. has been relatively quiet, but the opposition to the party has been loud and articulate. A meeting of 1,000 loggers in Vancouver recently heard addresses by three federal politicians including John Diefenbaker and they all assailed Socialism, and perhaps the most outspoken address on this subject was delivered by H. R. MacMillan, the dynamic lumberman whose company last year had

sales totalling more than \$80,000,000 and net profits of more than \$8,400,000.

Mr. MacMillan foresaw the probable criticism of these high profits from the Socialists and took prompt steps to head them off by delivering his own attack first. His argument was that companies such as his were pledged to a policy of plowing back their earnings to expand their operations, thus guaranteeing jobs and payrolls. If it wasn't for the profit motive, claimed MacMillan, British Columbia would never have had its fur trade, its gold rush or its industries.

What chiefly concerned Mr. MacMillan was the recent declaration of Harold Winch, the C.C.F. leader, that if he and his fellow Socialists were to gain power the first thing on the itinerary was expropriation of the MacMillan Company, Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co., and similar prosperous and progressive corporations. It was a program to make the flesh of private enterprisers crawl, and the loggers gave evidence that they want none of it.

On the other hand, the loggers don't like the idea of monopolies either, and they object very strenuously to the provincial government's plan for sustained yield management of the forests. They claim that under this plan certain big corporations have the opportunity to develop huge holdings for all time while the operating life of their small competitors is limited. They intend to buck the program before the legislature.

Another "monopoly" that will meet some resistance is the power group as represented by Aluminum Co. of Canada. In this case opposition comes from the fisherman and fish packers who fear that the hydro-electric development contemplated by the aluminum interests, if engineering aspects are feasible, will wreck the Fraser river as the source of salmon worth many millions of dollars annually.

If the hydro-electric project goes ahead, dams would be built on some of the headwaters of the Fraser which happen to be close to the spawning grounds of the salmon. The fishermen



Bulls parading in the ring in a picturesque setting at Oban, Scotland, during the Highland Society's 57th annual sale.

contend that their interests should be given at least equal consideration by the government as those of the power group.

WEATHER conditions have been such that predictions are being made that the floods of last summer may be repeated in 1949. Old-timers cannot recall a longer stretch of cold weather than the west coast has had during the present winter and there have been heavy falls of snow. If suddenly melting snow on the higher altitude is concurrent with heavy rains, as occurred last spring, the Fraser and other rivers may run wild again. The percentages, however, are against such a repetition so soon. After all, the last flood on the Fraser comparable with that of 1948 happened more than 50 years ago.

Meanwhile, the job of rebuilding dykes and buttressing the river is proceeding slowly. The provincial government estimates that the cost of effecting repairs in the valley will be \$15,000,000 to \$17,000,000, of which the federal government is prepared to advance about \$12,500,000 and the province the remainder.

The money will be spent primarily on repair of buildings and farms destroyed or damaged by the flood. Surveys are being made of the headwaters of the Fraser with a view to effecting permanent control facilities, but this will take time and the program will be continued over several years. The provincial government will probably be well satisfied if it succeeds in restoring broken dykes this year. The long-term program will come later.

Aggressive selling, plus the accident of a maritime strike, which affected United States shipping, helped Okanagan growers in marketing their 1948 apple crop. When there was a big harvest and the United Kingdom resolutely declined to place any buying orders with the British Columbia fruit industry, the outlook seemed anything but bright. However, A. K. Loyd, general manager of Tree Fruits, Ltd., the growers' selling organization, decided that the time had come to test the markets of this hemisphere as never before.

LOYD and A. C. Landers, another member of the organization, made a quick but effective survey of the United States and South American markets and as a result more than 10,000 carloads of fruit was disposed of not only to the United States and Brazil but to the Philippines, Hong Kong and Hawaii.

However the growers are hopeful that the British customers will be back in the field before long. They are not the only element in British Columbia's industry that feels this way. The lumber trade is selling only a fraction of its usual volume to the United Kingdom this year, and the fish packers are selling nothing at all. In most instances there is general recognition of Britain's dollar predicament, but in some quarters resentment is expressed at the diversion of orders from Canada to eastern European producers.

The United Kingdom's economic plight is such that her buying policy has to be realistic, but some British Columbians miss the evidence that their wartime co-operation in keeping the supply lines open has not been forgotten.

Farm Service Facts

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It is always later than we think and the time to get out on the land often catches us unready. When it does come, all spring tillage implements and seeding equipment should be ready to go.

Since these implements will not have been used for many months, and if no record has been kept of what repairs are needed, each implement should be cleaned and inspected for cracked, broken or worn parts.

How to Force Out Old Grease and Dirt

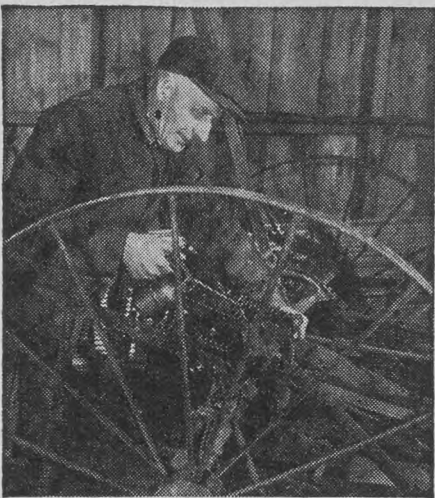


First, wipe the grease fittings, if necessary clean with kerosene. Then force enough grease into each bearing to force out old grease and dirt. If grease won't go through take the bearing apart and clean thoroughly. Doing this job before the season starts may save the loss of many valuable hours.

Where to Wash with Kerosene



Kerosene dissolves grease and so it is a most useful helper when overhauling machines. Have two lots of Kerosene handy—one for rough cleansing and one for rinsing. It will help loosen hardened fertilizer in the hopper.



How to Use Penetrating Oil to Best Advantage

A can of penetrating oil is a very useful thing to have around when overhauling equipment. It saves a lot of time in loosening tight nuts and bolts, screws and grease gun fittings. It loosens up rusty hinges and locks. It's a sure cure for squeaky, stiff operating springs. The name "penetrating" describes the action of this handy product but it should be remembered to allow time for the oil to penetrate effectively.

How to Clean Sprockets and Chains



Sprockets and chains are generally exposed to dirt and grit and being greasy there is a great accumulation at the end of the season. Scrubbing with a stiff brush and kerosene will remove this "cake" and permit thorough inspection for worn links and cracked sprockets. The chain can be removed and placed in kerosene to soak until loose. Rusted links may require penetrating oil.

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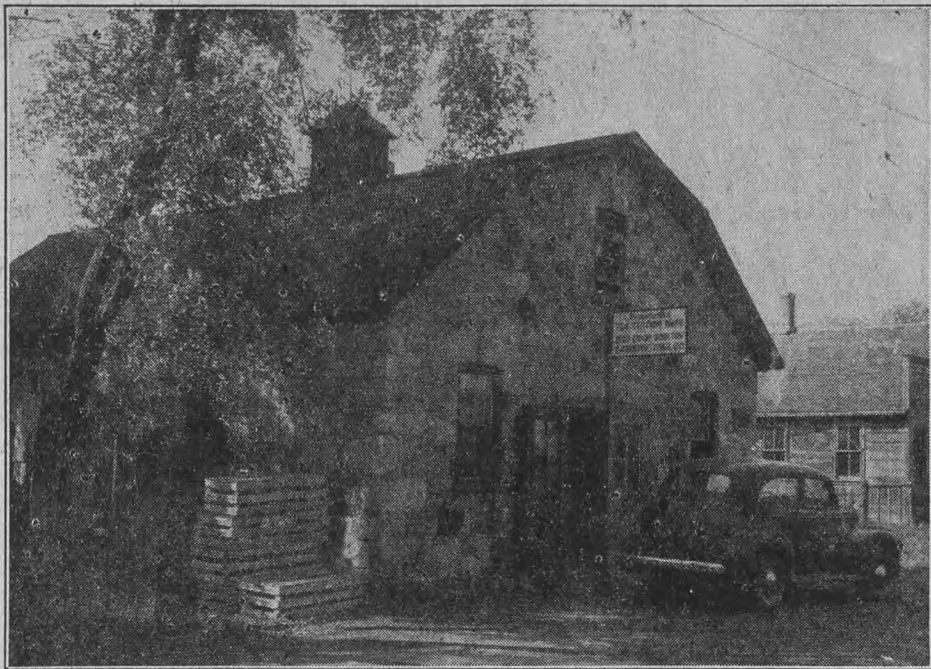
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POULTRY



[Guide photo.]

An egg-grading station of The Manitoba Co-operative Poultry Producers' Association at Oak Lake.

Newcastle Disease Of Poultry

A FEW cases of Newcastle disease—known to scientists as avian pneumoencephalitis—have been identified in Canada. The disease usually shows up first as a respiratory infection and may be followed by paralysis. It kills more chicks than mature birds but always sends old birds off lay. It is believed that the disease has been stamped out in Canada, but to insure that it does not become general the Dominion Department of Agriculture has restricted imports of hatching eggs and live poultry.

The Ministerial Order prohibits entry to Canada of live chickens, turkeys, pigeons, geese, ducks or other barnyard fowl or other birds raised under domestic conditions, unless they are accompanied by a proper veterinary certificate. It must be certified by a veterinarian of the national government of the country of origin that the birds are free from and have not been exposed to Newcastle disease. Similar certificates are required before hatching eggs from all kinds of poultry are imported. The eggs must be imported in new, clean cases, accompanied by a certificate from an official veterinarian of the exporting country stating that the eggs originated in flocks free from Newcastle disease.

Winter Care Of Pullets

WHEN pullets are brought in from the range and changed from large amounts of whole grain to a laying mash and limited whole grain, the change can often result in a setback that may cause a partial moult.

Dry, comfortable quarters, ample feed hopper space—one six-foot feeder, open on both sides for each 50 hens—and plenty of clean, warmed water are essential. A well-balanced laying mash should be provided at all times.

When pullets have been recently housed, heavy feeding of whole grain can be continued, but should be tapered off until a day's ration consists of about 12 pounds per 100 birds. If the birds are overfat the whole grain can be reduced, while if they are in heavy production and losing flesh, a slight increase in the whole grain ration is justified.

The Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask., suggests that

most poultrymen overcrowd their laying house. They do not consider this such a serious fault in the early part of the winter, if the poultryman makes a point of constantly culling out those birds that do not come up to expectations. By this means, the number of birds in the house can be reduced to one per four square feet of floor space before the cold weather sets in.

Getting Rid Of Lice

WITH the hatching season approaching flock owners will be selecting birds for their breeding pens. The handling of the birds necessary for selection affords an excellent opportunity for making sure that they are free from lice.

When the weather is cold the most effective treatment is dusting. Sodium fluoride and Derris powder are both effective for killing lice. These poisons gain entry to the body of the parasite through the pores in the skin, and kill in a few hours. They do not damage the eggs, however, and these will hatch within a week and re-infect the birds. A second dusting a week after the first will give a complete cleanup. Particular attention should be given to the area around the vent.

A bird that is free from parasites will lay more eggs than one that is forced to support a large number of lice. The work invested in cleaning up the birds will pay good dividends.

Fastidiousness . . . An Asset

THE following paragraph appeared in a recent issue of the Egg and Poultry Market report of the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

"Fastidiousness . . . An Asset," is the title of this week's poster-ad. It is occasioned by observing customers at a poultry counter in a larger store. There is a greater fastidiousness, on the part of the consumers, in the purchase of poultry than other meats. For that reason more care is necessary in the preparation, packaging and display of poultry. This fastidiousness can be made an asset. It means that processors and all concerned in the preparation of poultry for market will have to exert themselves further in the skill of preparation and attractiveness of presentation than in the case of other meats."

Safeguard Yourself

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Which Hens Pay Their Keep?

Examination of a hen will show if she is a layer, and so likely to be a profitable bird.

by BROWNE SAMPELL

HENRY POTTS' new neighbors, the city-bred Charles Campbell and his wife Corinne, had the distress signal out. They had killed another hen full of eggs.

"You young folks need to learn how to spot the layers," Potts, an experienced poultryman, told them.

"Tell us how," husband and wife spoke together.

"You can find out by a hen's appearance whether she is laying or not," Potts explained. "You see, a laying hen, like any pregnant female, shows it in her body. A layer's abdomen is large, soft and flexible; feels something like a partly milked-out udder. A laying hen is a good eater; her intestines are full and distended; they require more room. So do her enlarged ovaries and oviduct. To provide this extra space, the distance increases from the rear end of the keel (breast bone) to the pelvic bones (the two bones sometimes called pin or lay bones) which can be felt on both sides of the vent.

"In a laying hen there is a spread or distance apart of three or more fingers in the smaller breeds like the Leghorns. The larger breeds, like the Plymouth Rock, have a spread of four or five fingers. Also the vent of a layer is large, expanded or moist, white or pink-colored. The comb is large, waxy and bright red. The shanks, beak, eyelids and earlobes of the yellow-skinned breeds are pale and faded out; the yellow pigment goes into the egg yolk instead of the outer layer of skin. In breeds that have yellow beaks the color fades out quickly in the lower beak; in breeds like the Rhode Island Red, upper beak and shank show horn color as well as yellow—so always check the lower beak of these breeds.

"An easy way to spot a layer is by the moult," Potts continued. "A hen cannot lay eggs and grow feathers at the same time; so hens stop laying or almost stop during the moult. The better producers don't moult until late in the fall. The late moult is the best layer; the early moult is the 'short time' or poor layer. A hen that moults along about July won't give you more than 72 eggs; a November moult will produce about 230 eggs. So keep the late moults for both production and breeding purposes. You're planning on regular culling, I suppose?"

"Should we?" both wanted to know. "Yes, you should," Potts answered without hesitation. "You don't want to feed loafers at any time. And certainly not now when feed is particularly high. Culling saves you money on feed; it also keeps the high producers and the best breeders for you. With the poor producers weeded out those left have more room and a better chance."

"How often should we cull?" was Corinne's question.

"Well," said the poultryman, "if you're going to be poultry specialists, competitors of that poor possum named Potts, you'd better cull continuously throughout the year. Systematic culling will clear out the slacker hens as soon as they go out of production. But for the average farmer,"

Potts went on, "two or three cullings a year are enough. The first you make as soon as production begins to drop off and the second can follow in a month or six weeks after the first. July, August and September are the months to do the close culling; the poor layers quit in these months while the good layers keep on going. Careful culling is not just insurance against killing a laying hen for Sunday dinner; it is the only way to make your hens pay you a profit. Now Charles get out your notebook and jot down to cull these hens:

"The sick, weak, inactive, the poor eaters, the early moulters, those with small, hard, dry, puckered vents; small, hard, shriveled, pale combs; thick, stiff pelvic bones close together; small spread between pelvic bones and rear end of keel; yellow or medium yellow shanks, yellow beaks and vents.

NOW Corinne, it's your turn. Write in your book to keep these hens: The healthy, alert, active ones; the good eaters, the late moulters, those with large, moist vents; large, bright red combs; thin, pliable pelvic bones spread well apart; with wide spread between pelvic bones and rear end of keel; large, soft, flexible abdomens; pale or white shanks, beaks and vents.

"The most important thing to keep in mind about egg production is that it is inherited. A hen's ability to lay depends upon breeding rather than a particular type of body formation. So be extra careful about the male bird. See to it that the women in his family are high producers; that he has matured early, but not at the expense of size. And when you cull the hens in your flock, cull the roosters too. Keep only the best males for breeding your best hens."

Money From Roosters

LAST year we ordered 25 New Hampshire cockerels from a hatchery, to arrive the middle of April. We received 26 chicks alive. April was pretty cold; May also was chilly, but my baby chicks were most of them very lively and well on the way towards being the chief attraction on the table at Thanksgiving.

My chicks cost me three dollars and a lot of care, but I made some money with them. At the local fair in July I proudly exhibited a pair, and was pleased when I got first prize—\$2.50. They were nice large roosters. I fenced my roosters in on August 20.

I received an order for six of the best birds for a wedding. They weighed well, and with head and feathers off, brought 38 cents a pound. The six brought \$13, so my original \$3.00 investment had now brought me \$15.50. On Labor Day we ate one. I still had 17, which were on order at \$2.00 apiece, and brought \$34.

All the roosters were well fed with grain chop and milk. Buying roosters is a good way to turn a small sum into \$50 for winter clothing. I have tried it and success has rewarded my efforts.—Mrs. Hanson, Wapella, Sask.

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HORTICULTURE



Pruning fruit trees is a job better delayed until late March or early April over most of the prairie area.

Pleasure From Flowers

FOR the past five years I have had much favorable comment from people visiting my flower garden. I have been amused, too, by some of the remarks, such as "It must take a lot of your time." I do not find it so. Almost anyone who loves flowers can make quite a showing, with little effort. Perhaps the first requirement is good soil and protection from stock and poultry.

Among the annuals the Shirley mixed poppies probably lead them all for color, followed by the California poppies and the large mixed red and purple. If you have a fence for them to climb on, you should have a few Spencer mixed sweet peas, and by all means some clarkia and bachelor's buttons.

Then, if your flower garden is in a permanent spot, a few Iceland poppies in mixed colors, once started, will come up every year; and in one corner the Orientals. These are gorgeous and perhaps hardest to grow, but once started are worth while. I counted 68 blooms on a few stalks this past summer. Along the driveway I have iris, columbine and sweet william. These are all perennials. In a sheltered spot in the hot sun I have hollyhocks, and in a shady spot nasturtiums. The annuals should be sown thick and then thinned out. Cosmos will grow anywhere, but can easily become a weed in a flower garden because, like wild oats, they drop off and seed where not wanted.

A little work with the hoe after supper to keep the soil loose and weeds down and you will be delighted. My flowers made such a showing I was pleased to see our Municipal Service Board supervisor take pictures one day. These were later shown locally in colors on the screen and did not lose anything in the showing. I counted 88 yellow roses on one bush this past summer and a Hansa rose bloomed until freeze-up.

I have a shelter-belt of caragana, ash and poplar to keep the high winds away. I also leave the old, dry flower stalks in the garden through the winter as they catch and hold snow. This may be contrary to good practice, but

I have carried carnations and pansies through the winter, outside.

If one wishes, one can, of course, spend a dollar or two on started plants such as aster, snapdragon, marigold and petunia, but last year I had my own and it saves money. I find too, that cutworms like the tender hot-house plants. You can save your own seed if you wish; a few stalks put away to dry and you have all the seed you require. I took flowers from my garden into the hospital last fall that showed up well with those from a florist's shop.

Gladioli are easily grown, also dahlias, but one must remember to take up the tubers and store away like potatoes, in the fall.

This may sound like "carrying coals to Newcastle," but I had California visitors who were so impressed with the California poppies that they later wrote asking for seed, as in all their years in California they had never seen that particular shade of red.—Harvey Hanson, Balzac, Alta.

Alberta Letter

THE last time I wrote to The Country Guide (Nov. 1947), we had had a very bad year. However, 1948 was very good. The grain crops were very good in this district and our fruit crop one of the best we have had—apples, plums, cherry, pears and all small fruits were heavily laden with fruit. The Camrose Rotary Club took a real interest in our orchard and garden last summer; and after an article about same in both the Camrose Canadian and Edmonton Journal we were kept busy for a few weeks showing visitors around. On October 25 the Camrose Rotarians honored me for my work in horticulture by making me an honorary member of their club. So I feel more than well repaid for my work.

I should have written to you sooner as I feel The Country Guide was really the cause of my first attempt at fruit growing. Haralson apple did very well; one tree bore over 400 apples. Oxbo, McDonald and Hibernial all did very well. Haralson is the best keeper; they will keep right through

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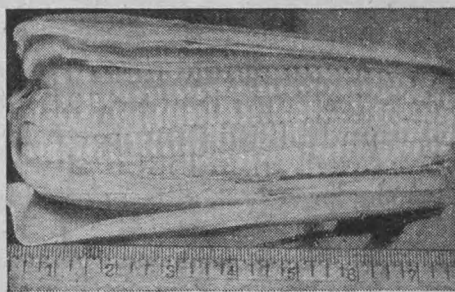
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the winter in a cool basement. Among plums the Pembina held the spotlight—so large and good right off the tree. Other plums that did well were Bounty, McRobert, Ojibwa and many Manitoba unnamed seedlings, with the usual heavy crop of Opata and a few Grenville and Radison plums for the first time here, both very large, fine plums. Dura, one of the new cherry-plum hybrids, is a very heavy cropper. It is a bit late, but tops for making jam. Nanking cherry did very well, also Coronation and Convoy. The latter, from Boughen's Nurseries, looks very promising.—J. R. Blades, Olaton, Alberta.

carmine flowers and has rough, crinkled, dark-green foliage. Quite a number of hybrids with this rose as a parent have been produced, some of which like F. J. Dootendorst flower pretty well throughout the season until frost. Some have large double flowers with quite a length of seed.

The rose varieties, Agnes, Grace, Orinda, Sylania, Mohawk and Iroquois are hybrids of the shrub roses mentioned above. They have been developed as a result of the rose breeding program at Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Repellents Again

FOLLOWING the article in our December issue, on repellents for rodents, a reader from Balcarres, Saskatchewan, comes forward with the suggestion that Bordeaux mixture, the spray material which has been used for over 40 years in controlling fungus diseases in fruit trees is a good repellent. He reported that in his own experience jack rabbits were regularly controlled in fruit orchards by mixing up a whitewash of lime and water, adding a couple of handfuls of flour to make a gallon of whitewash. To this add one-half pound of bluestone or copper sulphate, first dissolved in a non-metal container with the minimum of boiling water. The dissolved bluestone is mixed into the whitewash thoroughly and either brushed on the trunk and main branches as high as seems necessary, or perhaps applied with a watering can or even sprayed on if particles of the mixture are fine enough to go through a spray nozzle.

The reader tells us that, "no other repellent is used in the citrus orchards or on plantations against rodents down there in the southwest. It is effective, harmless to the trees and cheap. It also protects the tree against sunscald, since being white it reflects the sun's rays."

Fruit For N.E. Saskatchewan

R. H. ANDERSON, Supervisor of Illustration Stations in north-eastern Saskatchewan, recently called attention to the fact that the size and quality of the fruit grown in north-eastern Saskatchewan, as demonstrated at the Sixth Saskatchewan Provincial Fruit Show last August, compared favorably with fruit grown in more southerly areas.

He believes that many varieties have proved their worth in northeastern Saskatchewan not only as to hardiness, the most important factor in successful fruit growing, but also in quantity and quality of fruit produced. Experience on the illustration stations, representative of various parts of the area, indicate that Heyer No. 12 and Rosthern Seedlings Nos. 9 and 15 can be recommended as highly satisfactory apples. Among crabapples to be recommended for general use, he includes Florence, Calros, Anaros, Columbia, Osman, Dolgo, Robin and Bedford. Fewer apple-crab hybrids can be so recommended, but among these are Trail, Rosilda, Rescue and Piotosh.

In the plum and plum-sandcherry groups he suggests Assiniboine, Mandu, Mammoth, McRobert, Ojibwa, Bounty, Brooks, Dura, Opata, Sapa, Tom Thumb, Heaver and Manor.

To Start Onions Indoors

THOSE who want to be sure of a good onion crop can get bulbs 2½ to 3 inches in diameter suitable for storing throughout the entire winter. G. D. Matthews, Dominion Experimental Station, Scott, Sask., says it is just as logical and desirable to start onions inside as for tomatoes, cabbage, celery, and cauliflower.

Seeds should be sown in early March, pricking out the plants about a month later into flats or boxes containing a good, mellow, friable soil. Plants set out at least an inch apart in this way will produce spindly top growth, which can be clipped back frequently so as to keep them not more than four inches tall. Hardening off in a cold frame early in May, or placing the flats outside during the day, enable them to be planted out in the garden May 15 or a little later. It is possible to start the plants in a shallow box and at garden planting time separate them by washing them apart, thus making it possible to avoid one transplanting.

Hardy Roses

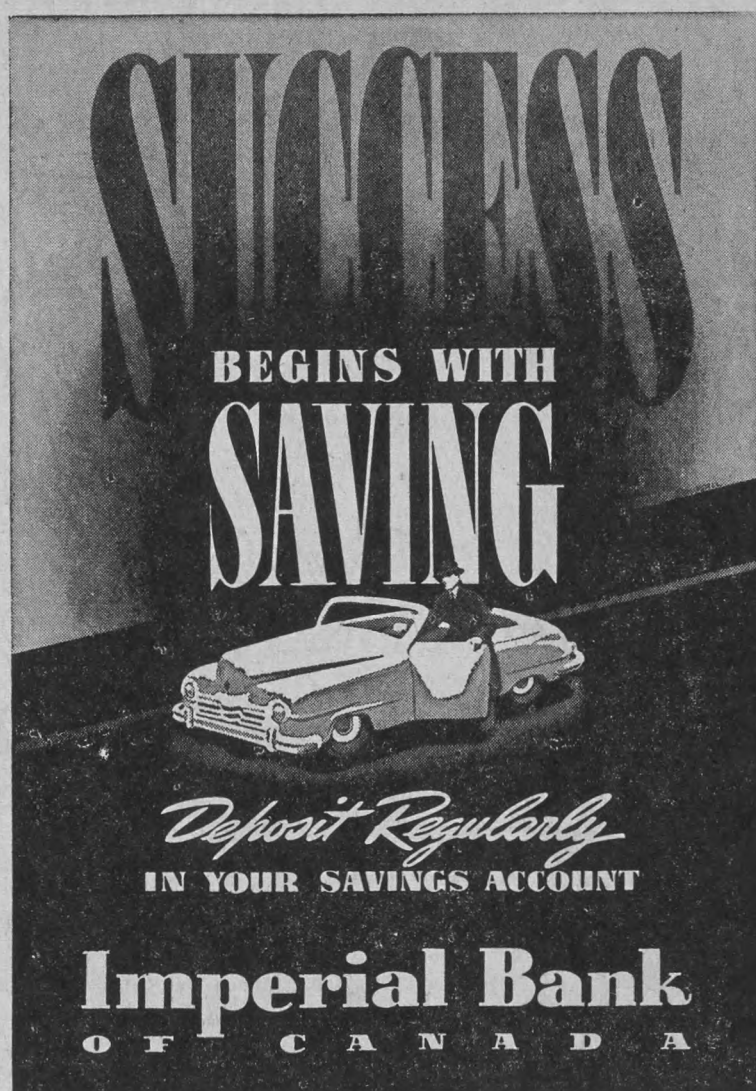
BECAUSE it is difficult to grow the very tender roses in many parts of western Canada, the majority of people perhaps grow no roses at all. This is a mistake, because hardy shrub roses are available to provide a considerable amount of good bloom during parts of the summer season and, in addition, have foliage which varies in color and texture so as to fit in well in the shrubbery border.

Harison's Yellow has been grown in Canada for almost 200 years according to R. W. Oliver, Dominion Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. This rose bears profuse, pale, single, yellow flowers, and while it has only one short season of bloom its small foliage is attractive in the summer months and the bush bears black fruit in the fall. Growth is dense because Harison's Yellow suckers freely.

Other shrub roses worth considering, in the opinion of Mr. Oliver, are the red leaf rose, the Japanese fruiting rose, and the smooth rose. The latter has almost no prickles and is perhaps best known through the variety Betty Bland. This is a tall, upright shrub which has good-sized, double pink flowers. The wood is also a dull red, and very attractive during winter and spring.

The red-leaved rose is attractive because of its dull, purple-red foliage. Its growth, however, is very thin and leggy and its flowers few, red and single.

The Japanese fruiting rose bears colorful scarlet fruit, large, single,



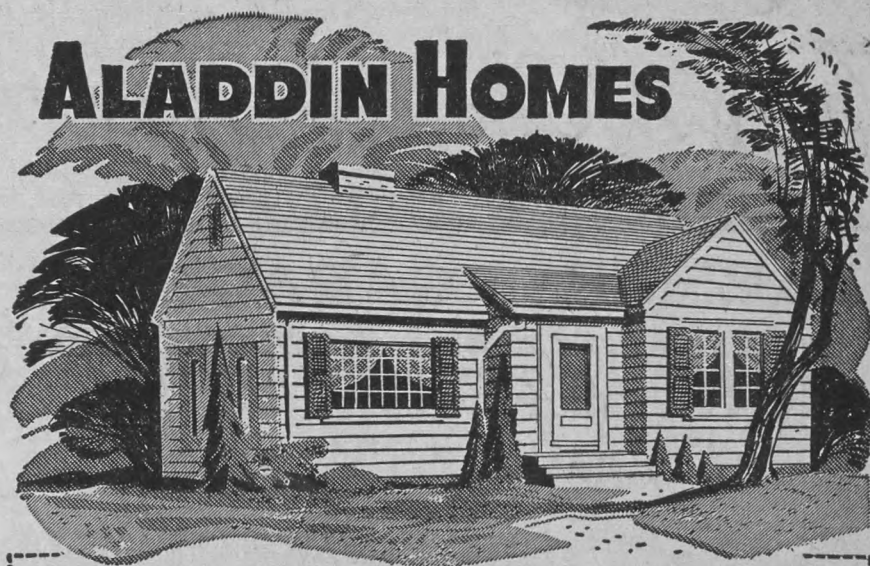
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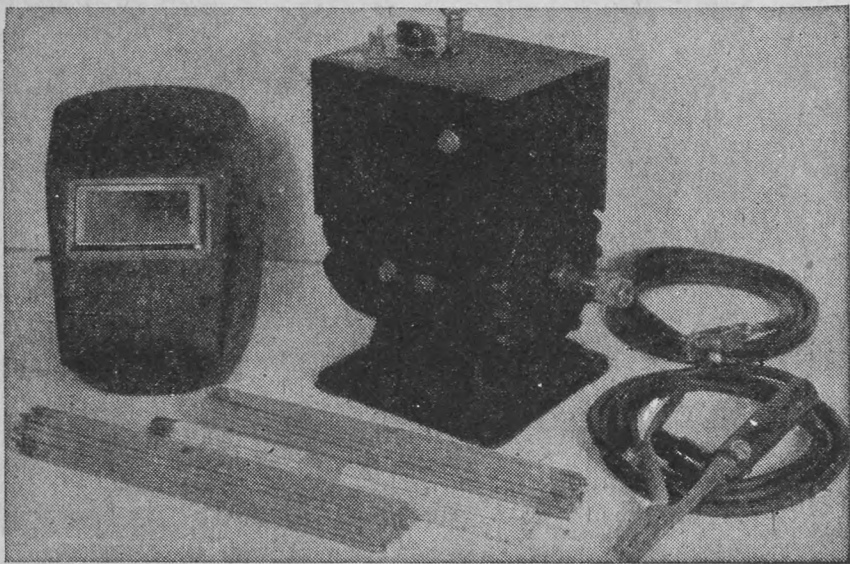
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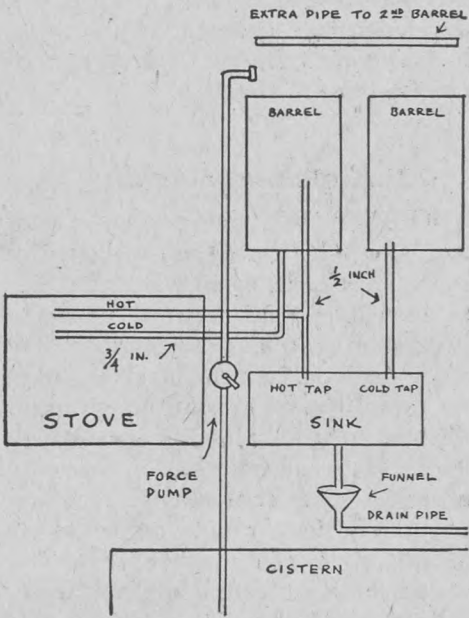
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Water System

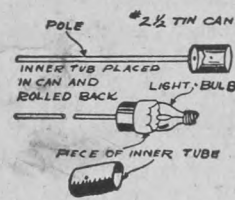
Here is a simple water system I installed. The diagram is nearly self-explanatory. The system can be set up anywhere in the kitchen; and the two barrels, one hot and one for cold water, can be boarded-in to look like



a cupboard. The pump is an ordinary circular, barrel force pump and the pipe used should be any convenient size the stove is tapped for. The cold water pipe from the hot water barrel should lead from the bottom of the barrel and the return should project up into the barrel at least a foot.—W. V. W.

Replacing High Bulbs

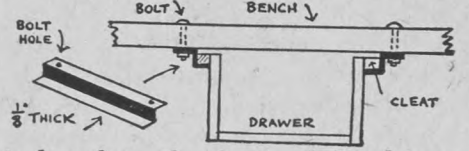
To replace high electric bulbs in the yard or buildings, use a long pole or a piece of two by two, with a tin can (one end open), attached firmly to



the end. Use a piece of rubber from an old inner tube about twice the length of the can, to line the can, and have it long enough so that the extra length will be rolled back over the outside of the can. The rubber will provide sufficient grip so that when pushed up over the burnt out light it will loosen or tighten the bulb in the socket. Slight differences in the sizes of bulbs may be adjusted by extra rubber, but for large bulbs a larger can will be needed.—I. W. D.

Hanging Drawer

You can make a hanging drawer quite easily for the workshop with a few small pieces of lumber, two pieces of flat, or angle iron, and a few bolts. Make the drawer of any size to suit your space, using preferably clear, dry wood. Hang it by means of two pieces of 1/8-inch flat iron shaped as in the diagram, each piece being equal

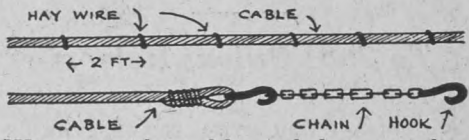


in length to the depth of the drawer. Bolt these to the underside of the workbench as indicated, and fasten cleats, preferably of hard wood, to the top, outer edge of the drawer by means of screws. If the top or sliding surface of the iron is smoothed as much as possible and a little soap used on the underside of the cleat, the drawer will slide easily. If no shaping of the flat

iron is practicable, use two pieces of small angle iron, bolting the horizontal side to a strong hardwood cleat, which in turn, is bolted to the underside of the bench. The drawer handles can be home-made or purchased for a few cents.—R. C.

Preserving Cable

When a cable is used for pulling trees, or other objects where much repeated bending is required, the cable will tend to break or unravel.



Wrapping the cable with hay or other wire every two feet helps to stop the unravelling. Breaking, on the other hand, which tends to occur where the cable is repeatedly bent around the tree, can be reduced by fastening a short length of chain to that end of the cable so that the chain, rather than the cable, takes the bending.—T. R.

Solid Rubber Trailer Tires

To fit solid rubber tires on your trailer inexpensively, use any old rubber tire from truck or bus. Slice a strip 2 1/2 inches wide and 72 inches

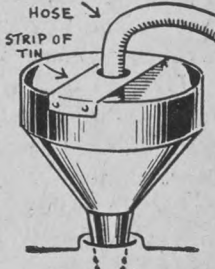


long from the centre of the old tread. Bevel five inches on each end of this strip, on the bottom of one end and the top of the other. Place the two ends together by riveting or vulcanizing. It will

now be a heavy rubber band slightly smaller than the circumference of a 30x3 1/2-inch Ford or Chevrolet rim and will fit tightly when mounted. Use on trailers only. On drive wheels of any description the tire creeps under power.—F. W.

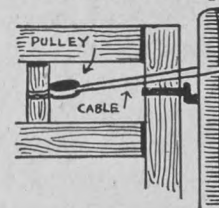
Hose Clamp For Funnel

When filling a tractor in the fields from the hose of a fuel tank with the aid of a funnel, the hose can be kept from slipping by fastening a band of tin across the funnel mouth. Take a strip of heavy tin three to four inches wide and rivet or weld the ends to the sides of the funnel. Make an opening in the centre large enough to nicely take the end of the hose. When inserted well into the funnel mouth the hose will not slip.—M.W.



Protect Top Gate Hinges

Sometimes heavy gates pull the top hinges loose. Generally all that is necessary is to provide extra support by attaching a pulley to the gate as shown in the diagram, and running a wire cable through the pulley and around the gate post.—Earl R. Baker.



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MONTHLY COMMENTARY

Negotiations For International Agreement

Delegates from many different countries have been gathering in Washington, as this page goes to press, for the purpose of negotiating an international wheat agreement. Prospects for a successful outcome are better in some respects, and worse in others, than was the case with the corresponding meeting a year ago. In the first place they are better because the mechanics of an agreement have already been worked out, and little will remain for discussion or argument in that respect. If there is to be an agreement it will almost certainly be on the framework which has been established. They are better also in respect to subsequent ratification, if the negotiators come to an agreement. It was the Congress of the United States which caused last year's agreement to fail, by refusal to ratify. The new Congress is almost certain to support the Administration, and to ratify any agreement to which governmental approval has been given.

Prospects for success are worse, in so far as agreement on a price schedule is concerned. A year ago the outstanding fact about wheat was its scarcity, and importing countries were not worried so much about the price, which was high, as they were worried about supplies. Consequently they were ready to adhere to an agreement which seemed to make it easier to assure supplies for themselves. Now the supply situation is easier, with the prospect of becoming easier still, and the question of price looms larger in the minds of importers. The idea widely prevails among importing countries that although wheat prices have dropped considerably during the past year, they ought to, and will decline still further. On that account they are likely to want a lower maximum price than was embodied in last year's agreement. Suggestions have been made of \$1.80 per bushel, as against the former maximum of \$2.00. They will be even more concerned to lower the schedule of minimum prices. A further source of difficulty may be seen in the fact that while Argentina refused to take part in last year's negotiations, she is participating in the current ones. Perhaps that means that some other exporting country or countries will have to move over to make room. Last year's agreement dealt with the allocation of 500 million bushels annually in international trade. Of that Canada was to provide 230 million bushels, the United States 185 million, and Australia 85 million. Suppose that Argentina should now want a quota of 100 million bushels. How much of that would have to come out of Canada's share, and how much would Australia and the United States be willing to reduce their quotas? The obvious suggestion is to enlarge the total, but it is not easy to get various importing countries to give very high commitments as to quantities they are willing to take, year in and year out.

Just what brought about the change in the attitude of Argentina has not been explained. Until recently that country has insisted upon the highest possible price it could extract for its

wheat, and such sales as were made were at prices higher than those obtained by either the United States or Canada. With wheat supplies becoming more plentiful it has not been so easy to succeed on that plan and the general belief is that Argentina had a considerable carryover into its new crop year. Then again, Argentina presumably found some disadvantage from being on the outside. The signatory importing countries, although they did not put it so bluntly, practically bound themselves, in last year's agreement, not to buy any Argentine wheat until after they had completed their obligations to buy from Canada, the United States and Australia. Then, too, Argentina is reported to have been having internal difficulties with its wheat policies. Producers have been getting only a comparatively small part of the proceeds of sale, the difference going into the general funds of the government. As a result, there has been a tendency for acreage to decline. If a major change in policy has to be made, it might be easier to accompany it by a change in attitude towards an international agreement.

Beyond all other difficulties in dealing with wheat looms the fact that many importing countries, badly in need of wheat now, and in future years, do not know how they will be able to pay for it, except by means of continued assistance from the United States under the Marshall Plan. They will perhaps, on that account, be more willing to follow the wishes of the United States in respect of an agreement. On the other hand, such undertakings as they may give will appear unrealistic except on the assumption, both that such aid will continue, and also that the United States will continue willing to supply funds for wheat purchases in other countries.

The Wheat Contract With Great Britain

Great Britain is to continue to pay at the rate of \$2.00 per bushel for Canadian wheat during 1949-50, the fourth and final year of the wheat contract between Canada and the United Kingdom. Or it might be more accurate to say that a minimum of \$2.00 per bushel has been agreed upon. Whether Great Britain is later to pay any more or not is a question as yet undecided. The British and Canadian Governments have decided that the question of what further compensation, if any, is due this country will be left open, to be settled sometime before July 31, 1950. One thing, however, has been definitely settled. It is that Canada had some claim against Great Britain under the "have regard" clause of the original contract. How much that claim amounted to, whether it has been settled in whole or in part by the \$2.00 price just negotiated for the final year, are matters yet to be determined.

When the wheat contract with Great Britain was negotiated in 1946 by the Government of Canada, both governments presumably thought that wheat prices were likely to go down, instead of to go up, as they actually did. Consequently, while the price for the first two years was fixed at \$1.55 per bushel, prices for the last two

years were left for later negotiation, but with a minimum of \$1.25 per bushel stipulated for the third year, and \$1.00 per bushel for the final year. It was also added that in negotiating prices for the third and fourth years, the British Government would "have regard" to any amount by which the \$1.55 price for the first two years had been below the "world price" of wheat that period. It was not any easier then than it is now to say what those words were intended to mean, and in particular whether Britain was undertaking to make up such difference between the "world price" and the contract price as might be disclosed. Had either party to the contract supposed that prices for other wheat would advance as much as was to be the case, probably a great deal more care might have been taken to be precise as to the intent of the agreement.

But in addition to the ambiguity in wording of the contract, another difficulty had become important before the time came to negotiate the price for the final year. That was the fact that Britain could not find funds to pay for wheat except with the assistance of either the United States or of Canada. This country had made a very large loan to Britain not long ago, or rather had extended a large credit to Britain. After the credit had been largely exhausted, and only a few hundred million dollars remained undrawn, Canada had to notify Britain that for a time further use of the credit would have to be suspended. That meant that Britain might have to rely on Marshall Plan fund dollars with which to pay for Canadian wheat. It meant more, that the United States acquired an interest in the price to be paid, for it would hardly allow such use of Marshall Plan funds to pay to Canada more than the current American price for wheat. Thus it was presumably out of the question for Britain now to agree to any such price as \$2.50 per bushel, which in some quarters had been suggested as appropriate in view of the losses to Canadian farmers during the early years of the contract.

Apparently also, in addition, Britain wished to be sure of some further use of the Canadian credit before coming to any agreement on price, and negotiations in that respect seem to have been going on while the wheat price was under discussion.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the difficult question of price was not finally settled. Instead the easy way was chosen of naming the minimum price actually to be paid, and deferring final discussion. If that turns out to be higher than the "world price"

during 1949, as Britain evidently expects will be the case, she will claim an offset on that account against anything that may have become due in respect of the first two years of the contract.

The Marshall Plan Again

Mention of the Marshall Plan brings up another highly important point. Under Congressional enactment establishing that plan, use of funds is allowed for purchases in other countries, provided that prices paid are not in excess of prices prevailing in the United States, and also providing that the commodity in question has not been declared to be in surplus supply, by the Government of the United States. If wheat should be declared surplus it would create a very awkward situation for Canada. If now a wheat agreement is signed under leadership of the United States, will a moral obligation upon that country be created not to declare wheat surplus, no matter how plentiful it may be in the United States, in order to allow the wheat agreement to function, and other countries to participate in export business up to the extent stipulated?

As delegates assembled at Washington there was a reasonable degree of optimism as to a successful outcome of negotiations. One estimate was that these would take either one week or six weeks. The meaning was that if agreement is impossible, that fact would probably be disclosed very soon, with an early break-up of the conference. On the other hand, if agreement is possible, it was expected that it would take a long time to iron out details.

Another suggestion was to the effect that the all-important discussions at Washington would be between Britain and the United States. If those two countries could reconcile their views on price, presumably most other countries would be willing to follow their lead.

Apples And Salmon

Wheat is not the only commodity in respect to which Britain finds difficulty in making payments to Canada. Some time ago notice was given that Canadian apples could not be imported under present conditions, and as a result apple growers in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia which used to produce almost entirely for the British market, are having to destroy a considerable part of their orchards.

Just the other day salmon packers on the Pacific Coast were notified that Britain could at this time buy no more Canadian salmon. This is a great change from conditions of only a short time ago, when Canadian canned salmon was in such demand abroad that it was frequently very difficult to buy in Canada. As a substitute the British Government is importing canned fish from South Africa, but is finding some difficulty because consumers do not like it nearly so well as the Canadian salmon of which they have been deprived.



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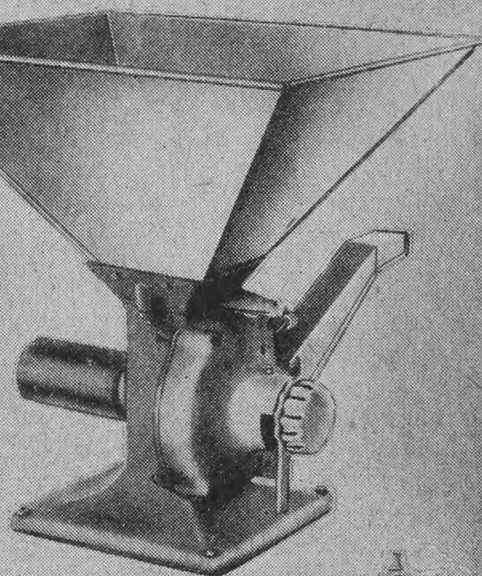
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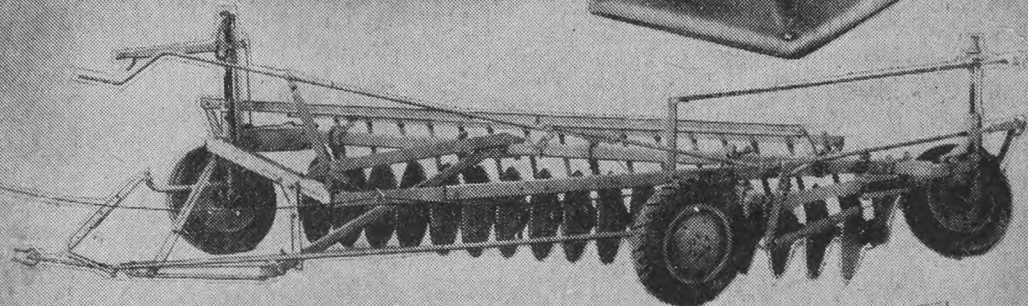


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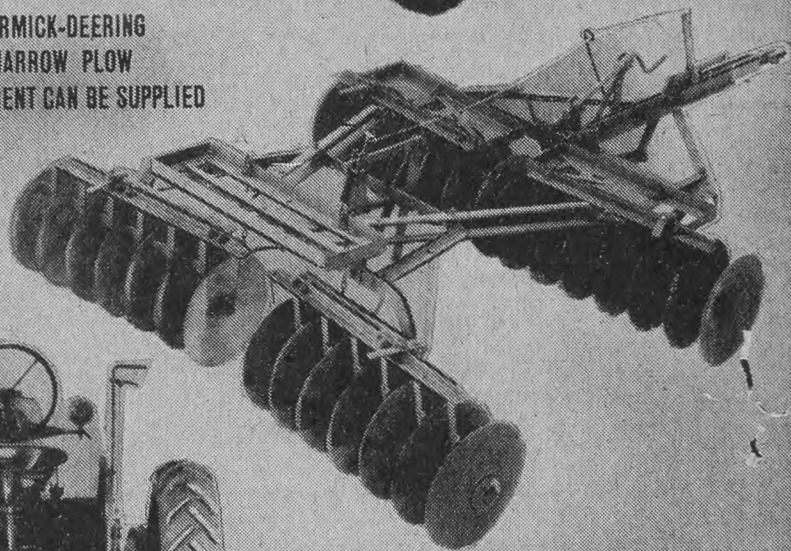
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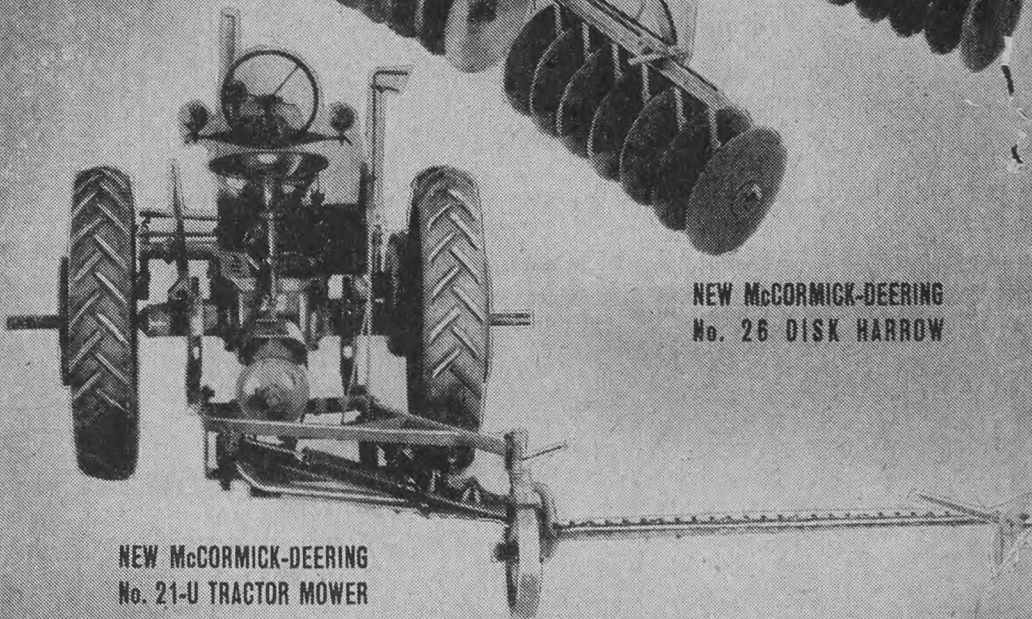
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Canning Vegetables

Continued from page 8

calcium content of less than 100 units, is essential for canning and available in large volume—some canneries use from 50,000 to 100,000 gallons of water per day, and (4) adequate sewage is of utmost importance.

Prairie Canners Ltd. has given the town of Winkler an imposing new industry. It draws heavily for its staff and labor requirements on the town's growing population.

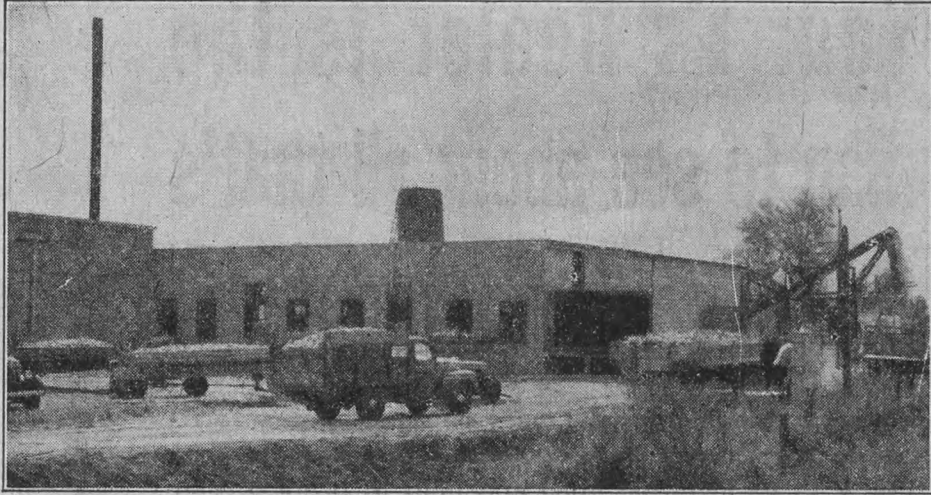
THE future of Manitoba's canning industry depends largely and jointly on the attitude of the canners and farmers. Sweet corn can be grown satisfactorily and also in large quantities. Canned corn is a favorite grocery item and large amounts are used. This is particularly true of the "fancy" and "choice" quality packs. As far as whole kernel canned corn or cream-style are concerned, the latter appears to be most popular. In 1948, most of the corn was canned cream-style. According to reports, Manitoba was the only province in Canada to pack fancy quality corn in 1948. High

much larger in Ontario where the season permits the use of the very late maturing sorts.

The desirable canning corn is one that produces large 14 and 16-rowed ears which measure seven to eight inches long. Such corn produces a high cut-yield per ton of ears. Canners like to realize 25 to 32 cases of canned corn per ton. Large-eared corn also boosts the farmer's yield. In addition to ear size, the corn hybrid should be early in maturity and also sweet flavored.

Plant breeders at the Dominion Experimental Station, Morden, Manitoba, are busy developing sweet corn hybrids for the canning industry. Their first introduction, Sugar Prince, a 12 to 14-rowed hybrid, has found favor in many prairie districts. The search for a desirable 16-rowed hybrid continues. At present a number of inbred lines are most promising, but require further study and testing before they are released.

An interesting "cultural policy" has emerged from the past years of growing canning corn in the Pembina Triangle. As a result of the relatively "short" season, 50 per cent of the canning corn will be early and mid-



Loads of canning corn waiting their turn to be weighed in at the Winkler Cannery.

quality such as this draws premium prices. The Manitoba canners are anxious to continue at top quality level.

The far-sighted farmer knows that canning crops can be a desirable "fill-in" should a time of low farm prices return. However, during the past few years, many farmers were greatly tempted by the glare of high prices of flax and similar crops. In fact, in growing these grain crops the farmer can virtually remain on his tractor from spring seeding until fall plowing.

In contrast, some hand work is necessary to produce sweet corn for canning. Some farmers also find that the canning harvest conflicts with the grain harvest. However, such problems have been overcome. The canning crop harvest has, in some cases, been let on contract by the farmers to local laborers with large families. A marked advantage of the canning industry is the large quantity of by-products which can be used on the farm.

The sweet corn used for canning is composed almost entirely of first generation hybrids. These range from early season maturity to quite late. In the early class, Marcross and Sugar Prince are popular; in the mid-season category are Gold Rush and Carmelcross; and in the late group are Tendergold, Top Cross Bantam and Golden Cross Bantam. The list is

season hybrids planted on the warm, sandy soil areas. This is to insure (1) an early seasonal start in canning, and (2) a generous volume of material for canning, just in case the season is one of those occasional and unusually short uncertain ones. Another 35 per cent of the same hybrids are to be planted on the more substantial heavy loam soils for later and usually heavier yields. The remaining 15 per cent are to consist of the late maturing hybrids.

Moreover, these late hybrids are to be located on the light, sandy loam soils and commercial fertilizer used to speed up maturity. Thus far, commercial fertilizer has proved beneficial to canning corn fields. The crop has been earlier, and the yield heavier, than on non-fertilized fields. The low analysis 8-10-8 fertilizer and the concentrated 11-48 ammonium phosphate used at rates varying from 70 to 125 pounds per acre, have paid well.

The quality of the seed used in canning crop fields is highly important. Large seed produces a strong stand of vigorous plants. The resulting early and vigorous start is essential for a heavy-yielding, early crop. Accordingly, seed that has been sized is preferred to general-run or un-sized material. The seed is also treated with Arasan or Semesan Jr. before planting. The importance of this is reflected in the fact that the wrinkles of sweet

corn seed may harbor organisms that are harmful to the resulting seedlings. Chemical treatment protects the seed especially in a cold and wet spring when germination is slowed and rot organisms are active.

PLANTING dates are vital for canning crops. As a rule, the farmer is loathe to plant early. Late seeding, in early June, allows weed seeds to germinate. These can be cultivated out before the corn is seeded. In 1947, some farmers reported that the June plantings produced the heaviest yields. However, this was not the case in 1948. In a planting dates experiment at the Experimental Station at Morden, yields of six tons per acre were harvested from seed sown May 1 to May 15, and 4 to 4½ tons per acre when sown early in June.

Corn growers are accustomed to and like the three-and-a-half-foot check-row system of planting. This allows them to cultivate several directions thoroughly and thus clean up the land while they grow a crop of corn. Thus far, check-rowing has not been satisfactory for sweet corn culture. It is thought that this system causes severe root disturbance to which sweet corn plants are sensitive. With it, yields have been averaging one to 1½ tons per acre. The solid-row method requires planting the seed with corn planter or grain drill in continuous seeding. The plants are later thinned to 15 or 18 inches apart. The rows are 3 or 3½ feet apart. The rows are hoed by hand once or twice during the season.

The usefulness of controlling weeds in sweet corn with 2,4-D has been mooted. However, thus far the benefits are open to question. Broad-leaved weeds, which are most susceptible to 2,4-D, are not as serious in corn fields in the Pembina Triangle, as wild millet or pigeon grass. Cultivation appears to be the only effective means of controlling the latter. Moreover, there is as yet no proof that 2,4-D will not harm corn growth.

IT is evident that canning crops can be a success in south-central Manitoba. While the chief crop to date has been sweet corn, several hundred acres of string beans and green peas, also, have been grown. However, still greater exploitation of this kind is possible. Asparagus, the high priced canned vegetable, thrives in the district. Tomatoes have been a productive crop. Carrots, beets and pumpkins, often used in canning, are well adapted. Cucumbers for commercial pickling, produce high yields. Moreover, fruits of proven performance, such as strawberries, raspberries, cherry-plums, etc., have distinct possibilities for commercial jam production.

It is satisfying to note that the farmers of the Pembina Triangle are making greater use, than previously, of the climatic and topographic advantages the district affords. A long growing season, a rich and warm soil, the shelter of the Pembina hills, an intensive mixed farming program and the densest population of any district on the prairies, are factors which make the Pembina Triangle a potentially favored area. Indeed, it can rightfully be called the garden land of the Canadian prairies.

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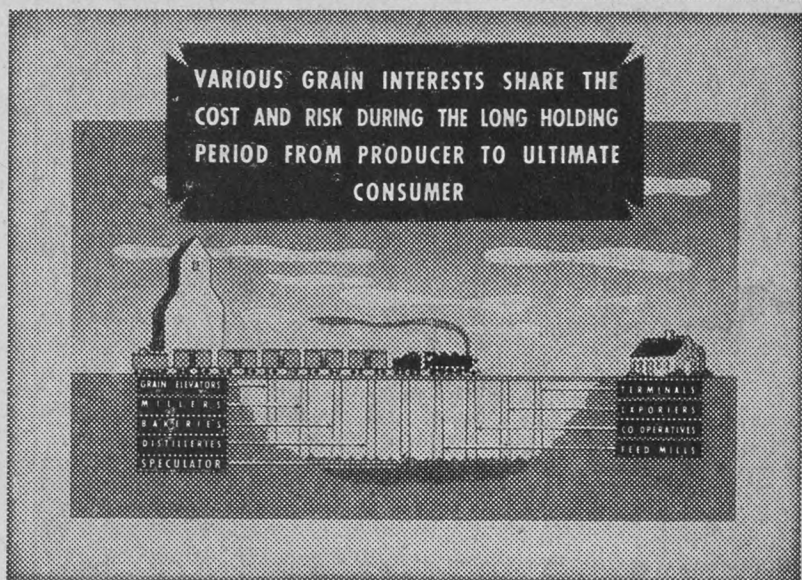
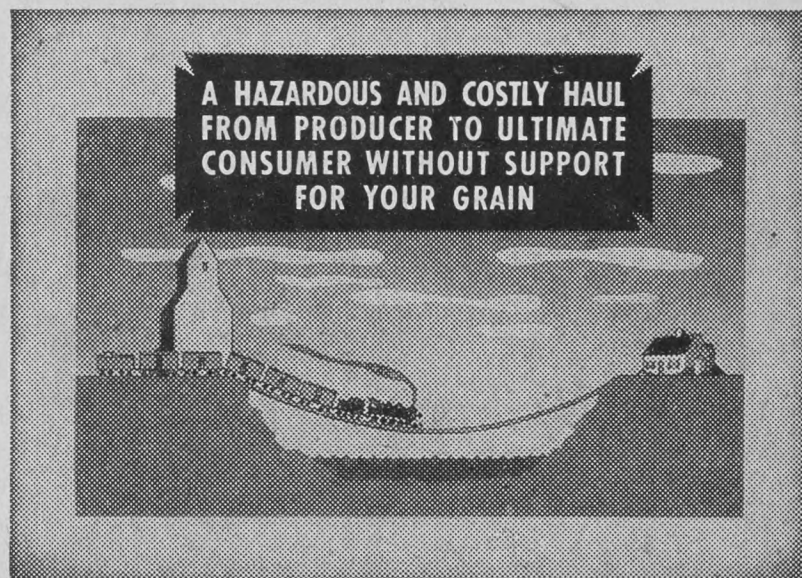
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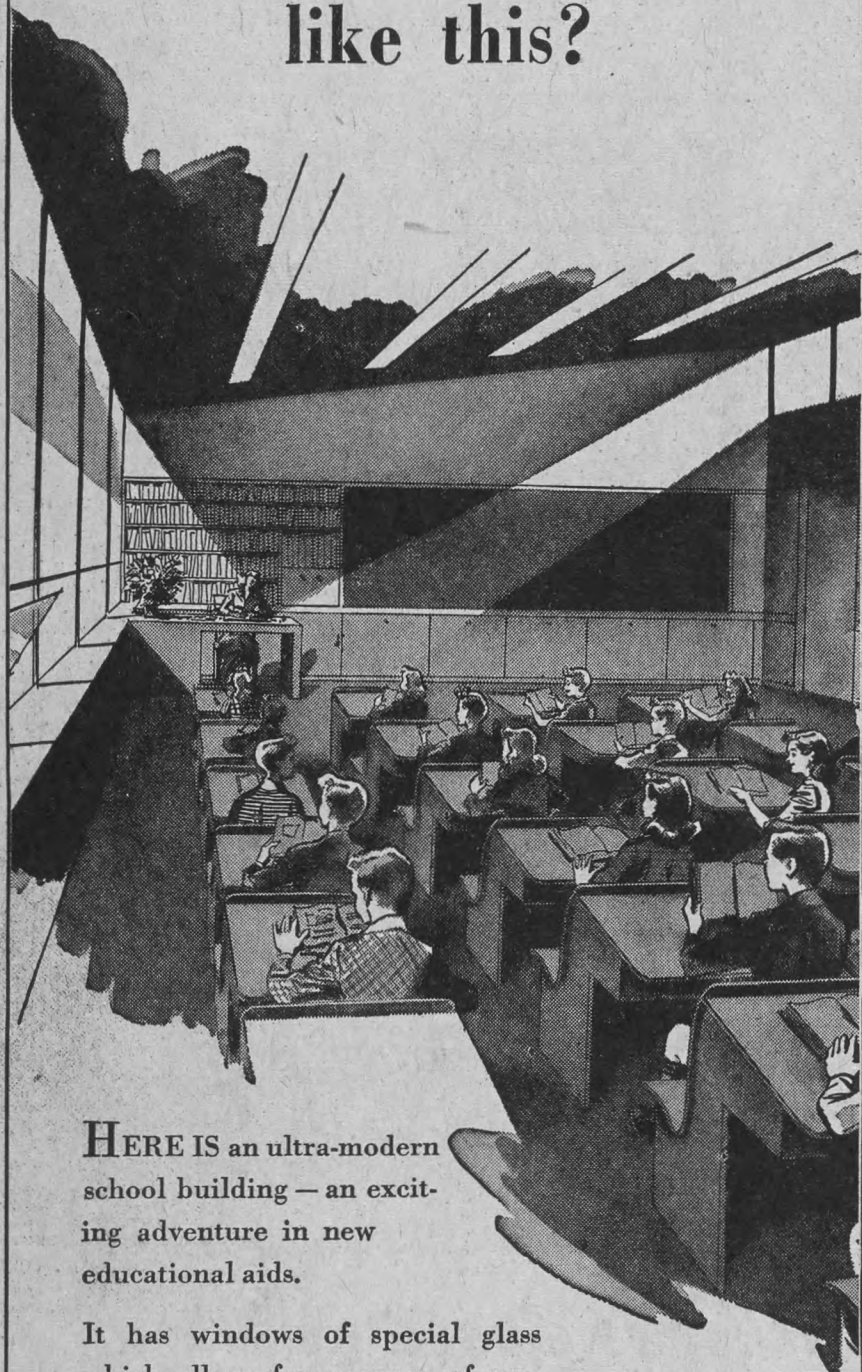
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FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



Jeanne Wold, left, and Marjorie Bruder, both of Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba, brought a first in the foods project back from Toronto, while Norval Brooks, left, and Donald McConnell, both of Hamiota, Manitoba, had the same success in grain judging.

Western Clubs Did Well

Representatives of western clubs did a good job of judging at the Toronto Royal Winter Fair.

OUT of a total of eight firsts, eight seconds and the same number of thirds, the four western provinces succeeded in bringing home three firsts, four seconds and four thirds in the National Contest for Boys' and Girls' Farm Clubs at the Toronto Royal Winter Fair.

Judging contests were held in beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, poultry, seed grain, seed potatoes, clothing and food. Manitoba led the western field with firsts in seed grain and foods, a second in poultry and third place in both beef and swine judging. Alberta placed second in foods and third in clothing and seed grain judging, while Saskatchewan teams stood second in beef and swine. The different type of agriculture in British Columbia was pointed up by the success of their teams in seed potato and dairy cattle judging. They placed first in the former and second in the latter.

These competitions indicated, as have other competitions in the past, that the province that excels in production of a crop may not top judging classes in it. If one considers Saskatchewan's position in grain production it is a little surprising that Ontario took second in judging grain and Saskatchewan went to fourth position. Alberta got a fifth in beef cattle judging and went still lower in swine judging. Western club members excelled where one might least expect it, in some cases, and did not stand as high as one might have hoped in others.

Manitoba would appear to have had the most evenly matched pairs in its teams. Her teams took home two firsts, a second and a third yet none of her club members won high individual score in any of the competitions. Alberta competitors led the western field in firsts in individual scoring with James Miller of Rockyford going to the top in seed grain, and Marilyn Beaton, Whitla, doing the same in foods. Donna Gibson, Tonkin, Saskatchewan, had high individual score for beef cattle, and Norman Hitt, Vancouver, B.C., was in the same

position in the seed potato judging.

A total of 90 club members took part in the judging competitions in Toronto, representing 45,397 club members across Canada. No one must lose sight of the fact that the 45,307 members who did not travel to Toronto this year are the vital part of the clubs. The National Club contest is something that all can aspire to, but obviously all cannot reach. All can "learn to do by doing" and in this way the clubs can reach and teach a large number of young farm people.

As time goes on and work is done, more can be reached. At the present time there are about 1,000,000 young people of club age on farms in Canada, but only one is enrolled in clubs out of every 26 who can enroll. In Manitoba the ratio is one out of eight, in Saskatchewan it is one out of 16, and in Alberta it is one out of 14.

In the last 15 years club membership in Canada has almost doubled. If it doubles again in the next few years it will be in the right direction.

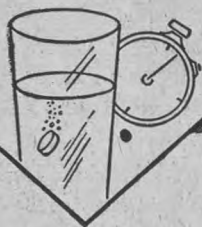
Natural History Society

ON September 11, 1942, a number of nature-lovers in Yorkton, Saskatchewan held a meeting out of which grew the Yorkton Natural History Society. They decided on an organized program of nature study and on the publication of a mimeographed quarterly bulletin, the "Blue Jay."

In the six years since publication began the bulletin has contained a variety of articles of interest to nature lovers. The articles discussed birds, animals, insects, plants, and all aspects of nature. It has received recognition from leading ornithologists throughout North America.

Not many of us can launch an undertaking as ambitious as that of the Yorkton enthusiasts. Nevertheless, most rural districts have young people who are very interested in birds and animals, and the formation of a nature club could afford many hours of enjoyable nature study.

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DOMINION SEED HOUSE
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Twisted Face

Continued from page 13

He came along at once, gave Miss Martin a bromide.

"All she needs is a little sleep," he said, when he came downstairs. "Very nice-appearing girl. Who is she? And what have you been doing to her?"

I told him briefly.

"You better get right out there," I concluded. The Doc is our town corner. "And pick up Matt Gordy on the way. Lem wants help."

When the Doc had gone, I went over to the office. It is not often that both the Judge and Sam Scott are away at the same moment; I was supposed to look after any clients who might happen to call.

I HAD been at the office about half an hour when Jeff Carey came in. Jeff sells automobiles and farm tractors, and makes a good thing at it . . . would, at least, if playing the races didn't keep him broke.

"Hi, Garry!" he said, slapping me on the back. "Who's the good-looking number I saw you having lunch with?"

I like Jeff, although I can't travel with him. He has three passions — women, horses, and liquor, in the order named. As I've said, he is not much of a success with the ponies. With women it's different; they mostly fall for him . . . he's the Don Juan type. Being a bit thin, and sandy-haired, myself, I suppose I'm rather envious.

"The young lady," I said in my best legal manner, "is a client of the firm."

"I should have been a lawyer," Jeff grinned, lighting a cigarette. "What have you done with her—put her on ice?"

"The girl's over at the house, Jeff," I told him. "Her name's Martin. Sally Martin. And she just inherited the old Carey property at Sandy Point."

"What?" Jeff bounced out of his chair, as I thought he would. "So, that's the party Aunt Sarah left the place to, instead of me!"

"That's the party," I said. "Distant cousin of yours."

Jeff began to laugh.

"Look here, Garry," he announced importantly, "you tell my good-looking relative I'll be round after dinner to meet her; see? Only way I know to get that property back is to marry the girl."

"Better wait, Jeff," I told him. "She's worn out. She's had a nasty shock."

"What sort of shock?"

"When she went out to look over the place today there was a dead man . . ."

"What?" Jeff fell back into the chair; I might also say he collapsed. "A dead man? Who . . . who was it?"

"I don't know."

Jeff lit a cigarette, his fingers shaking.

"Must have been terrible for Miss . . . Martin, a thing like that," he muttered, "Terrible!" Suddenly he got up, went to the door. "I'll look in anyway, during the evening, just to say hello. Right now I need a drink. Be seeing you."

Our talk left me puzzled. His sudden change of manner when I mentioned the dead man didn't make sense. It wasn't so much surprise as consternation. Ridiculous to suppose that Jeff Carey knew anything about it, and yet he left me with that impression. At five o'clock I locked up the office and went home.



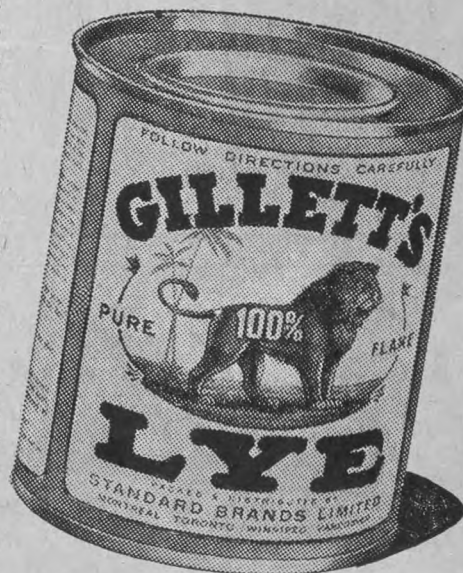
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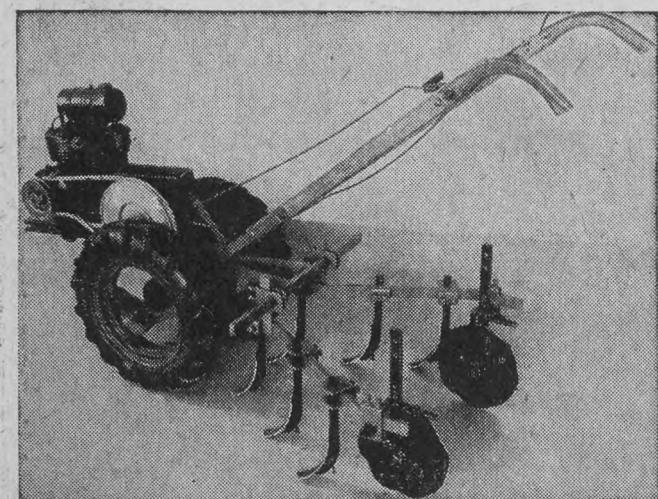
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There was no sign of Miss Martin, so I concluded she must still be sleeping. I realized, however, that the Judge was back; I could hear him talking in the library.

"Hello!" I said from the door.

Mrs. Cropper, who was with him, went out. My uncle looked at me quizzically. He is a small, neat man with a warm, disarming smile and looks like a bashful English curate. His diffidence, however, is only skin-deep; I once saw him face a mob of lynch-ers in front of the courthouse alone and by the sheer power of his eloquence convince them that the majesty of the law must be upheld. I am a great admirer of my uncle; he is, I think the gentlest and most fearless man I have ever met. Intellectually I consider him a giant.

The quizzical expression I saw on his face now made me suspect that he and Mrs. Cropper had been discussing our unexpected guest.

"Well, Son," he said . . . he has called me that ever since my parents died . . . "I hear you have been rescuing damsels in distress. I know she must be fair, since Mrs. Cropper tells me her hair is red."

"It is," I agreed. "The coppery kind. And her eyes are green, like jade."

"Charming," he murmured. "You are becoming almost lyrical. Well . . . in the spring a young man's fancy . . ."

"No fancy of mine," I interrupted. "The lady in question is your affair entirely . . . one of your clients."

I told him the story.

"Well . . . well!" He put on his glasses, took them off again. "What a pity I was not here to welcome her. I knew her mother, Ann Carey, before her marriage."

"I did the honors," I said. "We had a very nice lunch. Even if it was spoiled later by that man in the closet."

"You learned nothing about him?"

"Nothing, except that he was dead."

The judge picked up his hat.

"I think we have time to run out to Sandy Point before dinner," he announced. "I have told Mrs. Cropper to set an extra place for our guest."

I was not at all surprised that the Judge wanted to visit the scene of the crime; ever since his retirement from the bench he has been interested in criminals and their detection, a natural enough hobby for a man who has seen so many pass before him.

"You can imagine," I said, as we climbed into the car, "what a shock it must have been to that poor kid to walk right in on the murderer!"

My uncle examined his carefully polished fingernails.

"Rather odd, don't you think," he said presently, "to find the murderer lurking about the scene of the crime so long after it was committed?"

"How do you know when the crime was committed?" I asked. "The fellow might have been killed this morning."

"Oh, no." The Judge made funny sounds in his throat. "Quite out of the question. Quite. This man was standing upright . . ."

"He was. But I don't see . . ."

"You will, I think, after we have talked to Dr. Richardson. When you reach the gate, Son, don't drive in. I suppose you did before; you and Lem Purnell?"

"Why . . . yes," I said, stopping the car just beyond the Carey's entrance.

My uncle got out, began to examine

the wheel ruts in the spring mud of the drive.

"There's one, going in, that hasn't come out yet," he observed. "The first, of course, since the others mashed its tracks down. Last night, to judge from the spider webs." He pointed to some bits of shining gossamer in the road. "And the looks of those weeds. Pretty well faded. Did you find another car at the house?"

"Not any," I said. "Lem may have."

My uncle went up the drive. The pattern of the tires was clear. Just before reaching the front door they branched off into a narrow lane leading toward a barn at the rear. Behind a clump of lilac bushes stood a sedan.

"Whoever came in that," the Judge said, "is probably still inside."

WE found Lem Purnell in the library, now fairly well illuminated by means of an old-fashioned oil lamp. The house was wired for electricity, but since Miss Carey's death the current had been cut off. Someone had spread a towel over the dead man's face. Dr. Richardson was hunched over a table, making out his report. I did not see anything of Matt Gordy, but sounds from the floor above indicated that he was busy. Matt is Lem's chief assistant.

The Doc glanced up with a smile.

"Well?" the Judge said.

"Hit over the head with the usual blunt instrument," the Doc replied. "Death practically instantaneous."

"When?"

"Impossible to say, definitely. Some time before midnight, at a guess."

"And the body jammed in a closet?"

"Oh, no. Not then. This morning."

"Why?" the Judge asked, for my benefit, I imagine; he already knew the answer.

"If the man had been put in the closet when he was killed," the Doc said, "we would have found his body huddled on the floor of it. The fact that he was standing upright shows that rigor mortis was already fairly complete."

"And explains what that man Miss Martin saw was doing here this morning."

"Putting the body in the closet," the Doc agreed. "He may not have committed the murder, although it's likely."

Lem Purnell looked up.

"If the fellow was a sneak thief," he drawled, "reckon he didn't get away with nothing."

My uncle chuckled appreciatively.

"I think we may safely assume that, Lem," he said, "since he is still here. You've searched the body, of course."

"Yes," Lem grunted. "Matter of fact, he'd been robbed, himself. Pockets clean."

"And the car outside? You've seen that?"

"Yep. If it was his, no trouble to trace him. Maryland license. You want to look at the corpse?"

"I had better," the Judge said. "Do you recognize him?"

"Stranger to me."

Lem removed the towel from the dead man's face. I stared at the grey, pinched features. The right temple had been crushed by a violent blow.

My uncle glanced down, fingering his eyeglasses. I thought he seemed surprised, and troubled as well.

"I know the man," he said. "An antique dealer I got down here from Baltimore several weeks ago to value

CORRECTION

Unfortunately the Minneapolis-Moline Power Implement Company's ad on the back cover of The Guide's January issue appeared without the names of the Western Canadian offices—Winnipeg, Man., and Regina, Sask.

Most, if not all, Canadian farmers, after MM's many years of attractive four-color advertising on The Guide's covers, will know where to write. Readers are also referred to the back cover of this and other Guide issues.



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Miss Carey's effects. As executor of the estate I had to do that, since some of her things were to be sold separately. His name is Kolker... Hermann Kolker."

Lem Purnell replaced the towel.

"In that case," he said, "reckon this bird saw something of value here while he was doing the appraising and came back last night to get it."

I glanced about the large, old-fashioned room. Outside of furniture, there seemed little here to steal. As I have said before, the bookcases were empty, except for a few tattered volumes on one of the bottom shelves. Some of these had been taken out and now lay on the floor; among them stood a brass candlestick, with an end of candle in it, burnt down to the socket. I saw that the Judge's alert eyes had taken in these small details.

"I cannot imagine what the man could have been after," he said. "Not a book, certainly; he had already bought all that were of any value; the few he left behind were not worth taking away, he said."

"This bird bought Miss Carey's books?"

"Yes. The money received for them went to her nephew, Jefferson Carey."

I THOUGHT of Jeff's surprise earlier in the afternoon, when I had told him about Miss Martin... her visit to the house.

"Mightn't it have been a valuable paper of some sort?" I suggested. "Even a will?"

"A paper, possibly," my uncle agreed, "but not, I feel sure, a will. As Miss Carey's legal adviser I am able to state positively that there was no doubt in her mind concerning the disposition she intended to make of her property."

"Whatever the fellow was after," said Lem, "looks like somebody caught him looking for it and killed him."

"Yes." The Judge seemed puzzled. "Someone, perhaps, who was looking for the same thing."

"But why put the body in a closet?" Doc Richardson asked.

My uncle spoke softly:

"That is understandable. But for Miss Martin's unexpected return from Europe the house might have remained closed for years. Even had anyone come in, there would have been no reason to open the closet. Whoever committed the murder got rid of the body in that way, in order to continue their esarch uninterrupted."

"Then you don't think they found what they were after?" Lem said.

"No. I do not. Otherwise, why trouble to hide the body at all? Why not simply walk out and leave it, if they were not coming back?" The Judge pointed to the candlestick on the floor. "Your man Gordy will go over that for fingerprints?"

"Sure will."

"Whoever was examining those books on the floor," my uncle went on, "must have set it there. The dead man himself, perhaps. Or the murderer. Either could have come in, surprised the other. Or the two may have come together... quarreled." The Judge allowed his eyes to travel slowly about the room. "If there were any prints on the doorknob of the closet you probably obliterated them when you opened it, Lem, but you may find something on the door itself."

"Right." Lem nodded. "I'll see to it."

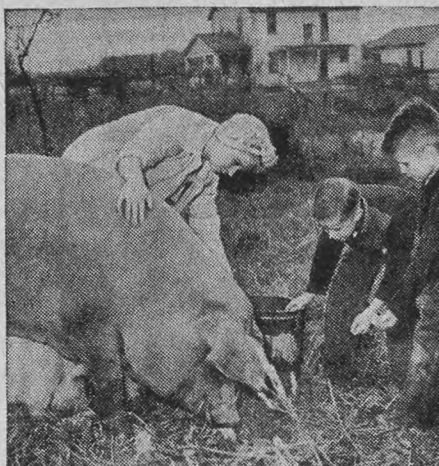
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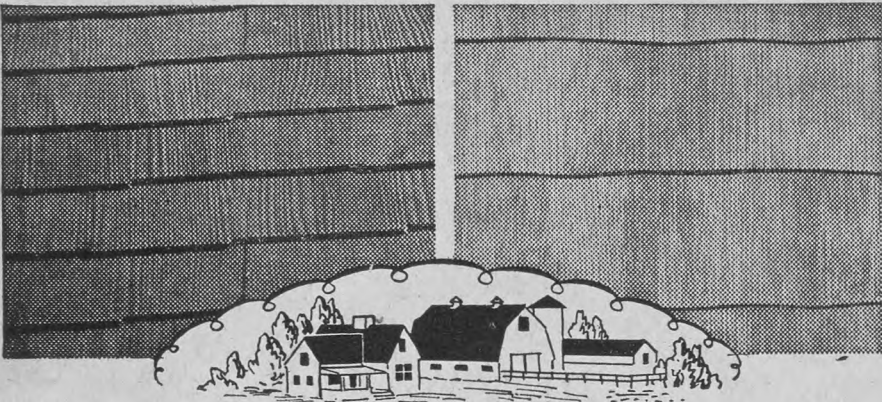


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didn't bleed much," the Doc spoke up. "Enough, however, to show where he was killed . . . unless it's been wiped up. We may assume he was carried to the closet."

Lem, who had bent to examine the polished floor-boards directly in front of the closet door, let out a yelp of agreement.

"I'll say he was! Here's a footprint! Two of them!" He flashed his electric torch. "In blood, or I'm cockeyed."

We all looked. The footprints, mere spidery outlines, had not been obliterated by other persons walking there, because the blood which formed them was hard and dry. They had been made, it seemed to me, by a smart, even stylish shoe. Again I thought my uncle sighed gently.

"Have you found the weapon?" he asked.

"Not yet. Matt's looking around."

"Very well. Come in after dinner, Lem, and let me know what you discover in the way of prints. Not that I mean to interfere," the old gentleman added hastily, "but if I can be of any assistance . . ."

"Right!" Lem said, and meant it. "Glad to have you, sir." I wondered if he had begun to suspect, as I had, that the Judge knew more about this affair than he was letting on.

For a moment the Judge stared into the oval mirror in which Miss Martin had seen the twisted face, then with a shrug of his shoulders he led the way to the car.

Miss Martin was waiting for us in the library when we arrived. My uncle, very grave and courtly, kissed her hand.

"A pleasure, my dear," he murmured, "to welcome you to Doverton."

"Glad to find you all right," I said. "Most women, after a shock like that, would have wanted to stay in bed."

"Do you think so?" My uncle regarded me whimsically. "As a matter of fact, women stand shocks much better than men. More cold-blooded, perhaps."

Most old bachelors, I've noticed, like to criticize women, in the mass, no matter how foolish they may be about them, individually. To my surprise, however, Miss Martin seemed to agree.

"Of course," she said, "I've had three hours' sleep and feel fine." She smiled. "You must think me a dreadful nuisance, descending on you like this."

"On the contrary, my dear, I consider it a privilege," the Judge said.

"What I really meant to do when I came down here," the girl went on,

"was to camp out at the old house, try some sketching." . . . She paused, shuddering . . . "Of course, I can go to a hotel."

"Not while I have a roof over my head!" the Judge declared. "You should know more than that, my dear, about Maryland hospitality . . . your mother was a Carey."

"That reminds me," I said. "A distant cousin of yours, Jeff Carey, is coming in tonight to meet you. He saw us at lunch, and insisted on it."

The Judge smiled at us. "Jefferson is an attractive young man, although difficult at times. After Miss Carey's death he was inclined to be bitter. Seemed to feel that he, and not you, should have been left the old house. All his aunt willed him was some books. She said it might do him good to read them."

"Has it?" Miss Martin asked, laughing.

My uncle shook his head.

"Jeff sold out the lot two weeks after Miss Carey died," he said. "The young man is not, I think, a great reader."

We had just finished our coffee when Jeff appeared. He came in and went right up to Miss Martin and kissed her.

"Two reasons," he laughed. "One is that you're my cousin, and in this part of the country cousins always kiss. The other is that you're so doggoned kissable."

MISS MARTIN did not say anything. I could not tell whether she was pleased or not. My uncle glanced at the two of them in his best bless-you-my-children manner, but I noticed a peculiar expression in his eyes.

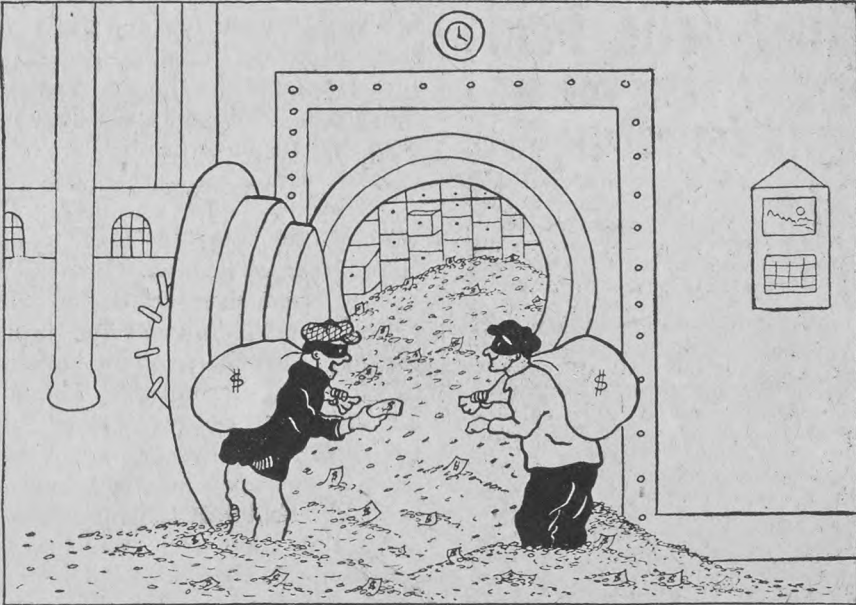
"By the way, Jefferson," he said, "I have a little matter I should like to discuss with you. Miss Martin will excuse us for a moment. Come into my study."

When they came back Jeff seemed very much pleased, and my uncle, too, was smiling . . . a thin, Machiavellian smile.

"Since the police will be here shortly," he said, "to discuss what occurred at Sandy Point, it seems to me that Miss Martin, who has had a trying day, should be spared the unpleasant details. Jefferson"—he gave Jeff Carey a knowing look—"why not take your cousin for a drive?"

"Wonderful!" he said. "Grab a hat and coat, cousin, and we'll be on our way!"

Miss Martin seemed to like the idea as much as Jeff did; you can never tell what is going to make a hit with a woman.



"Here's the five bucks I owe yuh, Eddie—"

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As the front door closed I spoke a little sourly.

"After all she's been through," I said, "a quiet evening in the garden would have been my idea. Jeff will keep her out all night."

"Do you think so?" My uncle's voice was very meek and mild. "I may be wrong, Son, but I have an impression that our charming guest will come home when she gets ready. A very positive young woman. And, besides, I had my own reasons for sending him away."

LEM PURNELL arrived a little after nine o'clock. Matt Gordy was with him, carrying a small satchel.

"We got fingerprints on the candlestick," Lem said. "Clear ones. And some of the same, on the closet door."

"Good!" my uncle murmured. "Anything else?"

"There was a car parked out behind the house last night. I don't mean Kolker's car . . . we've checked that. This one came up the old back road, from Elk Run. I say last night because of the way the tracks are dried out. Reckon it stood there some time; I found three cigarette butts, with lipstick on them, in the road."

"Cherchez la femme," the Judge murmured.

"What's that?" asked Lem. "French?"

"Universal, I'm afraid." My uncle laughed softly. "Any other clues?"

"Well . . . there's the condition of Miss Carey's bedroom."

"What about it?" The Judge's grey eyes became bright as pin-points.

"The place looks like a cyclone struck it. Somebody just took that room apart! Reckon you'll have to see it for yourself, to get the full effect. We found a hammer there, might of been the weapon, but the blood, if any, must of been wiped off."

"But fingerprints, surely," my uncle said. "On the handle."

"Not on this one. The handle's been cracked, and wrapped with wire-tape. No chance for prints on that."

The Judge leaned back in his chair, tapping the arm of it with his thin fingers.

"Mr Gordy," he said at length, "have you your fingerprint outfit with you?"

Matt, who is tall and awkward, glanced at his satchel.

"Yes, sir," he replied, blushing. "Lem and I just grabbed a sandwich; we haven't been back to the office."

My uncle went into his study; when he returned he was carrying a tall black bottle by the neck.

"See what you can find on this," he said. "I wiped the surface clean before the last person touched it."

I recognized the bottle at once, having seen it in the study; the Judge keeps a little rye there to refresh his friends. Matt Gordy opened his satchel on the library table, got out dusting powder, brushes, a magnifying glass. No one said anything. After a while Matt turned.

"The prints on the bottle," he announced, "and those on the candlestick and the closet door, are the same."

Lem Purnell coughed, uneasily.

"Does that mean anything to you, Judge?" he asked.

"I don't know." Again my uncle went into his study; when he returned he had a folded paper in his hand. "The prints on that bottle were made less than an hour ago, by young Jeff Carey!"

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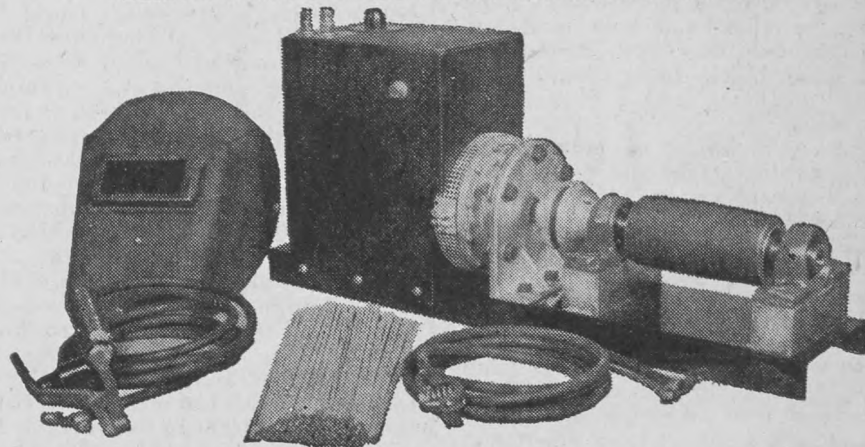
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Annual Meeting The Royal Bank of Canada

Sydney G. Dobson, President, declares private enterprise the very basis of Canada's progress and freedom—Right to take risks and reap rewards the major motivating force in country's development —“Socialism and communism are not systems of freedom, but of rationed democracy, in which liberty is doled out like social security benefits.”

The threat to personal freedom inherent in the Socialist and Communist philosophies, and the high promise of Canada's future were stressed in the principal addresses made at the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Royal Bank of Canada. “On the evidence before the world today, capitalism works,” said Sydney G. Dobson, President. “It works so well that the lowest paid workers in these North American democracies are better fed, better housed, and better supplied with the comforts of life than are the great mass of the population of collectivist countries. And they enjoy freedom.

“Our successful development of natural resources confirms our belief in private enterprise as the best motivating force in an economic system. All the natural resources imaginable are useless until they are brought out where they can be turned into serviceable goods, and the primary seeker, the most successful finder, and the greatest manufacturer has been private enterprise.

“Under this system people think hard and work hard because there are reasonable rewards. The need of incentives is recognized in every country where men are free to choose whether they shall work or not work, and how hard they shall work.

“In all collectivist economies—Communist or Socialistic—the idea prevails that dictators or bureaucrats can arrange the lives of people better than people can do it for themselves. Capitalism, on the other hand, believes that individuals should be free to express their abilities and thereby bring about a better standard of living and a better social order.

“Our system hinges on initiative, the courage to invest capital, the right to take a reasonable profit from such enterprises as are successful and the obligation to stand such losses as may be incurred in enterprises which fail.

THREAT TO FREEDOM

“Socialism and Communism do not seek to make the best of people's minds and enterprise. On the contrary, their process is to level all people by dragging down those who might have superior attainments. They need a strong, centralized government with control over all sections of the economy. They are not systems of freedom, but of rationed democracy, in which liberty is doled out like social security benefits. Incentives are lost, and individual initiative is smothered. Standards of work and product remain unimproved, because jobs are assured without regard for efficiency or performance. The ambition of men declines to doing just as much as has to be done and no more. Progress is sacrificed to a worship of averages—and they are averages somehow arrived at so as to be well within the reach of the least progressive. Promotion on merit is abandoned in favour of promotion in turn. Skilled workers receive very little more than unskilled workers. It is only natural that such a state of affairs should drive the best brains out of a country.

“I believe in equality, so long as it is equality of opportunity in education, careers and public life. Socialism is a force which holds back while enterprise is a force which propels us forward, and gives men and women a chance to display their talent and their worth.

INITIATIVE NEEDED

“I believe that more attention needs to be paid to the education of our people in the responsibilities as well as the advantages of democratic citizenship. Too much stress is being placed, these days, on human rights and not enough on human obligations. If it is reasonable for a man to expect to be taken care of when disaster threatens or strikes him, he should be educated to know that he needs to contribute his share to the welfare of the nation. I deplore the increasing trend among a portion of the younger generation today to think too much of security and not enough about going out and really accomplishing something for themselves.

“We live in a world where we should not expect to receive something for nothing. This is an old, old law recognized in economics, and no discovery by any political party or reform faction has ever found a permanent substitute. Queer creeds based on ease and leisure may rise and flourish for a time, but they always run into difficulty which can be overcome only by work.”

ASSETS OVER \$2,222,000,000

Mr. James Muir, Vice-President and General Manager, reviewed the bank's 1948 Annual Report and noted that new high water marks in the bank's progress had been established during 1948. Assets had topped \$2,222,000,000, a point never before reached. The bank's liquid assets equalled 74% of all liabilities to the public. Commercial loans in Canada had also increased denoting “an expansion of connections and clients as well as the fulfilment of the additional needs of old customers.” Mr. Muir also noted a further substantial increase in the number of depositing clients and total deposits of \$2,067,488,000, an increase of \$133,303,000 over the previous year, and a new high water mark in the history of the bank. Earnings had been moderately higher, and in addition to providing for the customary deductions including taxes of \$3,150,000 and increased dividends for Shareholders, had enabled the bank to transfer \$4,000,000 to the Reserve Fund which now totalled \$44,000,000. This left a carry forward in Profit and Loss Account of \$1,532,000. Looking to the future, Mr. Muir said, “Whatever the outlook for Canadian business in the short run, our long-run position should be secure. For our economic fortunes as a nation depend, not on disturbing short run ups and downs, but on our tremendous wealth in natural resources. Of course, natural resources are of little use unless they are developed. And I agree heartily, therefore, with what the President has just said about the need for ambition and enterprise.

“For my part, I would go so far as to say that we Canadians might appraise ourselves and our possibilities a little higher than we are inclined to do. No country on earth has a future that promises to surpass or even to equal ours. Whenever we forget that fact some Canadian voice must speak out, reminding us both of the greatness of our resources and the responsibility that rests upon us to take a mature and an ardent view of Canada's capacity for economic development.”

The Welding Of Benelux

Three small countries are breaking new ground in the field of national co-operation. Their path is beset by difficulties, but they have the will and the heart to win.

THIRTY-SEVEN years ago Sir Wilfred Laurier asked for the support of the people of Canada. He wished to introduce a limited reciprocity with the United States. Laurier went down to defeat. The Canadian people were not ready for reciprocity.

Many changes have taken place in the intervening years. Nationalism has had many charges levelled at it. The most important, perhaps, is its share in the causing of two world wars. Almost equally important is the problem that it has introduced in the world trade picture in recent years.

Three small countries in Europe have decided that nationalism is not a good thing, and are even prepared to give up some of their national rights in the interest of improved national relations and co-operation. They have introduced a new word into our vocabularies.

The new word is Benelux. It refers to the BELgium-Netherlands-LUXembourg customs union.

Benelux was born in the shadow of the last war. The participating governments were in exile from their respective capitals of Brussels, The Hague, and the city of Luxembourg. On September 5, 1944, they decided that they would form a customs union between their three countries.

There is probably some tendency for those of us who live in Canada to think that the forming of an economic union between three small European countries should be quite a simple thing. The facts do not bear this out. The ratification by the parliaments of international agreements will not make a union. The agreements must correspond to economic realities, and they must be able to function without upsetting the economies of the participating countries. It is reported Holland had plans to expand her glass factories. These would compete with the long-established Belgian glass factories, and on the signing of the customs union the Dutch abandoned their plans to expand. The Belgians have reciprocated by recognizing that the Dutch have prior claims to shipping. A functioning customs union requires a lot of understanding, tolerance, and give and take, and a recognition, not only of your own interests, but those of your neighbor.

Perhaps the most important step was the adoption on January 1, 1948, of a common customs tariff and the abolition among themselves, of import duties on each other's goods. The customs house, however, has not yet been removed, and goods do not circulate freely between the three countries. They are still subject to a system of import permits and licenses, and also to a different regime of taxes and excises. But the initial step has been taken, and the scheme is progressing. About a dozen permanent commissions are doing the work to prepare for the next stage. This will involve completing the unification by adopting uniform laws and rules for customs duties.

Even this stage will not entirely remove the economic frontiers be-

tween the Benelux countries. The taxes and duties at consumption will have to be unified so that all goods will be subject to the same duties in each of the three countries. This will give rise to budgetary problems and will completely upset the calculations of national income and the budget balance. Further, for goods to circulate freely each country will have to adopt the same system of import and export licenses, and the same authorized quotas in both directions. Customs union will only be a reality when the three countries have brought into harmony their economic, commercial, financial, industrial, social, agricultural and maritime policies. They have a long way to go, but their feet are on the road.

ANOTHER considerable difficulty to be overcome is the differences in prosperity between Belgium and Holland. In the recent war Holland lost about half her national wealth. Belgium was much more fortunate. Also, Belgium has made rapid strides on the road to reconstruction. Holland is in the throes of a post-war crisis. Belgium's exports now have a value equal to about 85 per cent. of her imports. In Holland the export value is only 48 per cent. of the import value. This has developed when imports into Belgium are almost free while in Holland imports are limited and the government is subsidizing essential goods in order to keep prices down.

There are other problems. Belgian and Dutch currencies are not freely interchangeable. The Belgian franc is a hard currency, and the Dutch florin a soft one, and is greatly depreciated in the black market in Brussels. Rationing has disappeared in Belgium; it is general in Holland. The trend of prices is also quite different. The Dutch government is attempting to keep the cost of living at about twice the pre-war level, while the Belgian cost of living is about three times the pre-war level. When subsidies are removed in Holland adjustments will have to take place.

There are difficulties even in the field of Belgo-Dutch trade. Belgium has already made a loan to Holland of 4,000 million Belgian francs. It is doubtful if she could afford to lend more. Holland imports more from Belgium than she exports to her. If the debt is to be paid this situation must be reversed.


The path is rough but the goal is both worthy and valuable. A smoothly functioning Benelux would be the third largest trading power in the world, surpassed only by the United States and Britain. The three small countries, speaking with one voice, would have a greater influence on world policies, and at world conferences. They would be a strong defensive unit against aggression. It could be a nucleus about which the other countries of western Europe might form a more comprehensive customs union. Economic co-operation in Europe is expected to smooth the path to reconstruction.—R. H.



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Swedish Story

Co-operatives outflank an international cartel.

WHAT is the story of electric light bulbs in Sweden?

Consumers' co-operatives in Sweden had become powerful enough to put monopolies out of business, among them the flour mill trust. The price of light bulbs was high in Europe and light bulbs were scarce, because the European light bulb cartel had restricted production. Also, light bulbs did not last long since the cartel had cut down on quality, in order to sell more bulbs. They could do this because they controlled the sale of all bulbs.

The Swedish Co-operatives hired a good bulb technician, who worked on increasing the life of light bulbs, while the co-operative discussed the business of an international light bulb co-operative. This was in the last of the 1920's and light bulbs in Europe were selling for as much as 52 cents for a 25-watt bulb.

When the cartel heard of the plans of the co-operative, and since they remembered what had happened to other monopolies where the co-operatives had gone into business, they asked for a meeting with Anders Hedberg, the head of the Co-operatives. Mr. Hedberg, who has visited America, has told this story to many audiences of co-operators.

He took his stenographer with him to the meeting and every word said by him and by the representatives of the Phoebus Company who met with him was transcribed.

THE cartel man, whose name was Oppenheimer, told Mr. Hedberg that they would tolerate no bulb factory in Sweden. If one were built, he told him, the cartel would dump light bulbs on the market at very, very low prices. Mr. Hedberg, who was speaking for the buyers of bulbs, answered that this would please the co-operatives very much. If the cartel sold at cost, or below cost, or gave bulbs away, it would all help the people who used bulbs, and that is what the co-operative wanted to do. Mr. Oppenheimer was amazed. He tried to show Mr. Hedberg that low prices would not benefit anyone selling bulbs. Mr. Hedberg answered that the low prices would benefit consumers and that was what the co-operative wanted.

The meeting ended, with the representative of economic autocracy in a daze. Mr. Hedberg took the transcript of the conversation and used it to show the members of the co-operatives why they needed to build a factory. They built the factory.

Before the factory was finished, the bulb trust lowered the price of bulbs from 37 to 27 cents. When the Co-operatives put their bulbs on the market in 1931 at 22 cents each, the cartel came down to that price. The co-operatives not only lowered the price of bulbs, but increased the life of their bulbs from 1,000 hours to 1,500, which amounted to the same as another one-third drop in price.

This is the answer to monopolies and cartels in every field. The money made by a cartel comes from the pockets of the people who buy the products. If that money is spent by these people through co-operatives, the cartel cannot continue to exist.

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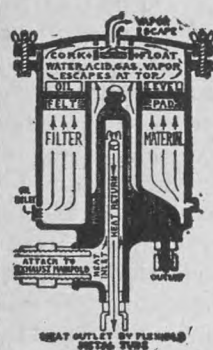
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Showed Softer, Lovelier
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RECENTLY, 181 women of all ages took part in a careful skin improvement test supervised by 3 doctors—skin specialists! The women had many common skin troubles—roughness, dryness or skin blemishes.

The doctors explained a new 4-Step Medicated Beauty Routine specifically developed to bring to women the full benefits of Noxzema Medicated Skin Cream. The women used only one cream—night and morning—for 14 days. Each woman's skin was examined through a magnifying lens at 7-day intervals.

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Bells Are Ringing

Continued from page 15

Abruptly, Rocky said, "You two go on up. I'll be along later." He looked at Virgie, looked away. "Go on up." He turned on his heel and was gone.

Going up in the elevator, Pop said, "Why did you let him go?"

She smiled with her lips but her eyes had no laughter in them. "Rocky's a big boy now, Dad. He should be able to take care of himself. Is she pretty, Dad?"

"Sure," Pop cried. "Beautiful and cold and hard. Like a marble statue. You got her beat by a mile. Why; your little finger—"

She smiled. "You sound slightly biased, Dad."

"It's true," he protested. "They was kids together, Rocky and Francine, and Rocky had a crush on her. Rocky must have been blind... Maybe he still is," he said wonderingly. "Damn it."

IN the fourth round the poker-faced Champ came in punching, a perpetual motion machine, beautifully oiled. He catches you with a left, you never see the right. All of a sudden the floor comes up close to your face and you're counting every dirty spot, every crease. The crowd sings and you hear them nice and clear. You get up and the Champ swarms over you. You trade punches, then you're back on the ropes trying desperately to get away from the murderous barrage. Your legs go suddenly weak and you're down on hands and knees. Now the crowd's roar is a million miles away and the lights dance crazy before your eyes. You grab a rope. Up on one knee. You take a deep breath and up you go. The Champ moves in, black eyes lustreless, cold. You reach out to grab a hold and you grab air. The Champ is walking to his corner and you stand there five seconds before Pop Beal comes to tell you the round is over...

Rocky walked down Broadway. Strangers nodded to him, said hello. Rocky answered mechanically. Francine Meadows, tall, blonde, beautiful. She'd always been a good looking kid. Even in the days when she'd been Fanny Medowski, down on Tenth Avenue, she had good looks.

She'd loved to dance. Every chance she had she'd dance. Once she'd grabbed Rocky and right in the middle of the gutter, to the accompaniment of a harmonica they'd done a Lindy hop that had brought a scattering of coins from passers-by. It wasn't Rocky who'd brought the crowd. Francine with her big smile, her body twisting and turning sharply, beautifully, suggestively maybe—she'd brought that mob around. They'd been fourteen then...

Thinking about it now, Rocky smiled inwardly. Francine had quickly picked up all the coins, with Rocky's help. He'd given her his large bandana handkerchief in which to hold the coins. There must have been about ten dollars in pennies, nickels, dimes, a couple of quarters.

She'd said, "You shouldn't give all this money to me, Rocky. After all, some of the people must have meant some of it for you."

He'd stared at her, wondering where she'd got the idea he'd given her all the money just because he'd loaned her his handkerchief. Then

she'd counted off fifty cents and given the coins to him. She'd smiled and thanked him. When she'd gone he stood staring down at the money, then, in a fit of temper, he'd flung the coins over the gutter where some kids had lost no time in pouncing on the manna from heaven.

He'd been sore for a while, but you couldn't stay sore at Francine...

He took out the crumpled note in his pocket, read it again. It had been written on Hotel Parker stationery. It said:

Hello Rocky: Just learned from the sports pages you're in town. I would like to say hello and good luck. I hope you get that fight with the Champ. Give me a ring, won't you?

Love, Francine.

Love, Francine. Even on paper it gave him a funny feeling. Love, Francine. A four-letter word that made your spine tingle.

He kicked a block of wood out of his way, watched it sail across the gutter and disappear under a car. He thought, what the hell am I getting so sore about? What's done is done. She's out of my life, forever, finished. Now it's just me and Virgie...

At eighteen he'd loved Francine terribly. His proudest moment was when he presented her with a gold wrist watch he'd won for his fourth amateur fight. He'd converted the watch to fit a woman's wrist and she'd kissed him and told him how much she loved him, agreed to marry him the week before Christmas.

Then Francine had won that amateur dancing contest at Loew's. Five hundred dollars in cash, a two-week tour of various Loew's theatres in Chicago. A movie scout offered her a contract at one hundred dollars a week. Naturally she'd accepted. Christmas passed, then New Year's before he'd received a card. She hadn't forgotten Rocky Sears.

When he'd won six straight professional fights, he'd left Pop Beal and gone to Hollywood. Francine met him at the station, kissed him, whispered in his ear that soon they'd be married. He stayed in a hotel, visiting her occasionally in the beautiful house she occupied, a home befitting a starlet now earning two hundred dollars a week.

HE was happy for a while. Even if he didn't see her as often as he would have liked—a girl in her position had to attend different parties, entertain at affairs given by big shot directors or producers—he was glad for the few hours he saw her on Sunday night. One night he went with her to one of those parties. He stepped out on the balcony in time to see one of the drunks mauling her, kissing her. Rocky heaved the man off the balcony into a rose bush. Francine got very angry. The drunk was a famous director and, it seemed, big directors weren't handled in this barbarian fashion.

They'd quarreled and he'd gone back to New York. Within the month he read in the papers of the Las Vegas marriage of Francine Meadows and Frank Covan, the same Frank Covan Rocky had deposited in the rose bush.

Rocky put his heart and soul into the fight game. In two years he'd earned a fight with the Mexican, chief contender to the throne. It had been a good fight but the Mexican packed too much dynamite in his fists. Rocky

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took the count in the fourth, sixth and tenth rounds and lost the decision.

Pop had stormed all over the dressing room after the fight, blamed Rocky's loss on Francine Meadows. "Why the hell doesn't she go back to Hollywood where she belongs?" Francine had divorced the director, and come to New York. "You could have licked the Mex if you'd kept your mind on your training, 'stead of galivantin' around with that dame."

Rocky lost the next three in a row, the last by a technical knockout. Francine returned to the Coast where a new contract awaited her. Rocky, sick at heart, enlisted, did a three-year hitch and, the war over, went back to Pop Beal, back to the boxing game.

Somehow the game was different now, training was harder, the punches hurt more, his feet weren't as spry as they used to be and his timing had lost its split second sharpness. But he did all right. Even if he did absorb a lot of punches that would have missed in his old days, Rocky won five in a row, two in Denver, two in St. Louis and one in Chicago where he'd outslugged the state champ despite a broken right hand.

He'd stayed in Chicago for a while, came on to New York to get a fight with the Champ . . .

Rocky Sears was supposed to be a mild workout for the Champ. The Champ thought so. The newspapers were already calling Rocky victim number twenty-five. The whole boxing world believed it. They said it was nice of the Champ. Rocky Sears needed the money . . .

Rocky smiled to himself. He'd fool them, the whole lot of them. All he needed was one opening, one right hand shot at the Champ's jaw . . .

THE clerk at the Hotel Parker informed Rocky that Miss Francine Meadows was not in her room and had left no messages. Rocky walked up Seventh Avenue. The sun was gone and swift dusk was falling over the city. A cool breeze stirred the dust in the grey streets. Rocky turned east on 47th Street. In the centre of the block an electric sign hung from an iron bar. It said, Sammy's Bar and Grill. Rocky went inside. Francine Meadows sat at the far end of the bar, alone. She watched Rocky cross the floor, slide onto the stool next to her.

There was no surprise in her face, a smile curling the corners of her red lips. She said throatily, "Hello, Rocky. Long time no see."

He said, "Three years ain't so long."

She looked beautiful as ever. The years couldn't age the smooth, softly-rounded face. Her blonde hair was a golden mound on top of her head. The throat was creamy white down to the swell of her breasts showing through the V-neck blouse.

She said, "I waited around the hotel for a call from you. Then I came here." The last time she'd been in New York, three, four years ago they'd spent many an evening in this place, talking, drinking . . .

She said, "When I want to think of you and me, I come here."

The words sounded trite and flat. Then she smiled . . .

She drank dry Martinis, he sipped cokes and they talked of old times. She listened to him, hung on every word as if her life depended on it, her lips parted, eyes wide and blue, watch-

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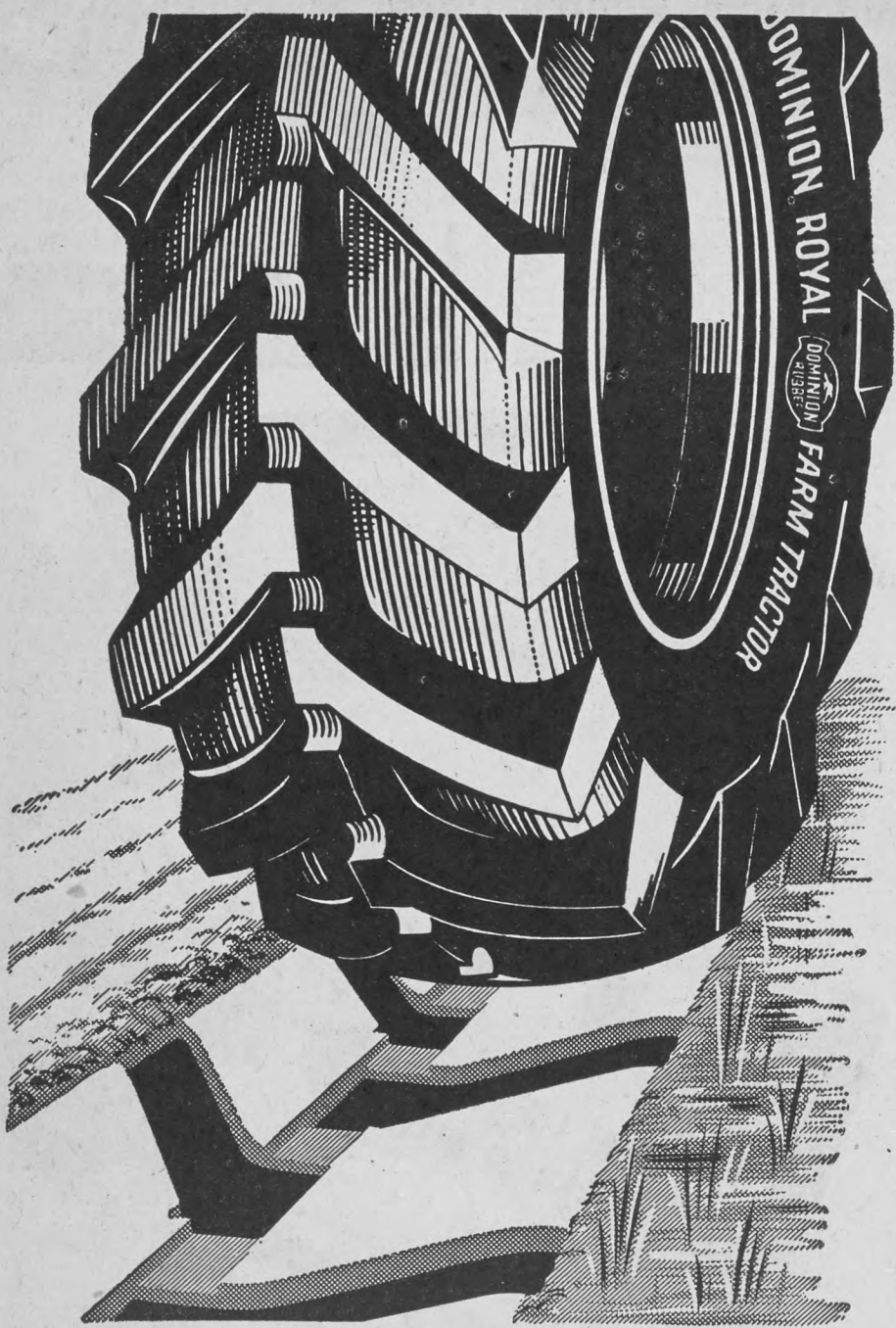
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ing his face muscles as he spoke. She told him of Hollywood, how soon she would get another contract. An agent was trying to swing it for her.

She said, "You're back in the big money, Rocky, aren't you?"

He said, "I will be after this fight. All I gotta do is beat the Champ." He smiled, laughed. "That's all I gotta do."

She finished the drink, ordered another.

She said, "A fight with the Champ should bring you a lot of money."

"Twenty grand, maybe a little more."

About to put the glass down, she stopped short. A surprised little flicker hurried across her face. Now her eyes were cool, calculating.

She said, "Twenty thousand dollars?"

He smiled. "It's more money than I ever got for one fight. It's the Champ who's making it for me. Four Rocky Sears couldn't draw more than flies. The Champ gave me a break."

She said again, "Twenty thousand dollars. And you'll beat the Champ."

"I'll beat him all right," he said. "A million bucks is gonna push me right up into the Championship. A million bucks . . ."

Her blue eyes were alive and warm. "I hope you murder him, Rocky."

He shrugged. "Let's talk about you. You didn't marry again?"

She shook her head. She said, looking into her empty glass. "It took me a long while but I learned that when a girl loves the first time it's real love, the real, unadulterated stuff. After that she's just kidding herself."

Her voice was husky, throbbing and he had a queer feeling, the same kind of delicious shivers that raced up his back when he was saluting the flag and the bugler blew taps. It felt good, yet slightly uncomfortable.

She said, "I'll never marry again, Rocky . . . Never . . . Unless . . ." She shook herself, laughed shortly, "Don't mind me, Rocky. Seeing you again has made me melancholy." Her eyes came up to his, blue eyes, soft, full of wistfulness. "I'm trying to tell you, Rocky, it was you all the time, when we were kids, when we grew up, all the time it was you, I had you, Rocky, I had you and let you go."

The air was full in his lungs, his knuckles white around the six-ounce coke glass.

Her voice was hardly more than a whisper. "All of a sudden, Rocky, I find that I still love you. Can you understand that?"

He cried angrily, "What am I supposed to do, get down on my knees and play dog?"

"I'm sorry, Rocky," she said quickly. She drew away from him. "I don't blame you. You must hate me terribly."

"If I did, I wouldn't be here."

She pushed the glass away from her. She said, "I messed up things, didn't I? It could have been so different."

"Let's not cry about it, huh? How long you out of a job?"

She smiled. "Too long, Rocky. But I'll get another—"

"You're broke?"

She didn't answer for a while, then she said, "I'm broke. But if you offer me any money, I'll get angry."

He took a roll of bills out of his pocket. Rocky had never owned a wallet. He peeled off two bills, put one on the bar to pay for the drinks, one in his pocket, the rest at her elbow.

He said, "There's a little over a hundred in there."

Looking at the money, she said, "I can't take it, Rocky. I won't."

He slipped off the stool. "I've got to run along now."

Her eyes came up to his face. "When will I see you again? Tomorrow? Here? Rocky, don't run away from me for another three years. I couldn't stand it. I'm not accustomed to plead for a date, Rocky."

He said, like a schoolboy reciting his lessons, "You know Pop Beal. Pop has a daughter. Her name is Virginia. She used to live with an aunt. The aunt died. Now Virgie's with Pop. She's a good kid, the best. We're going to get married."

Somehow it was hard to surprise Francine. She said, "You love her, Rocky?"

"Tomorrow we're going to get the license. Right after the fight we'll get married. She's a swell kid."

A smile rippled behind the surface of her blue eyes and he felt a vague unease.

She said, "I'm sure she is, Rocky. I'll be here tomorrow in case you want to talk."

He snapped, "So long, Francine."

She watched him go out into the street. She lit a cigarette, smiled. Carelessly she picked up the roll of bills, dropped it into her handbag, then went to the juke box and dropped a nickle into the hole. The music filled the room.

He didn't go to Sammy's Bar and Grill the next night nor the night after, but on Saturday he came in for a coke and she was there, waiting, her expression void of surprise.

BEFORE the eighth round is a minute old you're bleeding from a cut over your left eye, an old scar opened by a razor-sharp left hand. How many scars you got, Rocky? How many times you been cut and sewed up and cut again? Over the eyes, the lips, the bridge of the nose, around the cheek bones . . . The Champ stabs and hooks and crosses and you try to put over that one punch. That's all you need, one punch. There's a sound, like a bee flying around, inside your head. Maybe it's the crowd singing. The canvas is hard against your face. What you doing down there, Rocky? Up, Rocky, C'mon, like in push-ups in the gym, push up. But it's hard. Something heavy is on your back, your legs weigh you down like two chunks of lead. Finally you're up, swaying like in a moving train. The Champ shuffles out of the neutral corner and the iron band around your chest is so tight you can't breath. The bell sounds like sweet music . . .

Rocky confined his training to Stillman's on Eighth Avenue. Training out in the country costs too much. Every other day Francine came to watch him.

Two days before the scheduled fight, while Rocky was taking his last full workout, she came again. This time there was a man with her, a tall, good-looking man, a little on the

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elderly side, with blond hair that curled in the back. He had grey, watery eyes.

The round over, Rocky went to his corner where Pop Beal ran a towel over that part of the face not covered by the headguard.

Then Pop smeared big chunks of vaseline over Rocky's face. Rocky went one more round with a shorter, faster man, returned to Pop Beal who unlaced the gloves, helped remove the guard, threw a towel over Rocky's head.

Rocky climbed down. "Hi, Fanny," he grinned.

SHE introduced him to John Evans and they shook hands. Evans glowed at meeting Rocky Sears.

He said, "It's an honor. So you're the next Champ."

Rocky said, "You're not kidding, brother."

Virgie said, "You're standing in a draft, Rocky. Hello," she nodded at Francine, smiled at the blond man.

Rocky shifted his feet uncomfortably. The first time the two women had met they had measured each other with cold, open hostility. Even Rocky could sense it, though their talk had sounded friendly enough. It was in their eyes, in the way Francine's lips curled when she talked, in the way Virgie smiled with her lips, the usual warmth lacking in the rest of her face.

Francine smiled a brief, cool smile. "You wouldn't be Rocky's trainer by any chance?" she said to Virgie.

"No, just a messenger girl," Virgie said, "for Rocky's manager."

Francine lit a cigarette, eyebrows lifted.

Rocky, said, grinning, "Virgie helps Pop keep me on my toes."

Pop Beal called from across the floor. Rocky said, "The boss is calling. See you later."

He went to the mat, near the window, John Evans following. Francine sucked on the cigarette, her eyes slowly going over Virgie as if appraising the value of the print dress, the imitation gold bracelet on her arm, the black shoes:

Virgie stared back at her, her face flat, emotionless.

Francine said, "You don't like me, do you?"

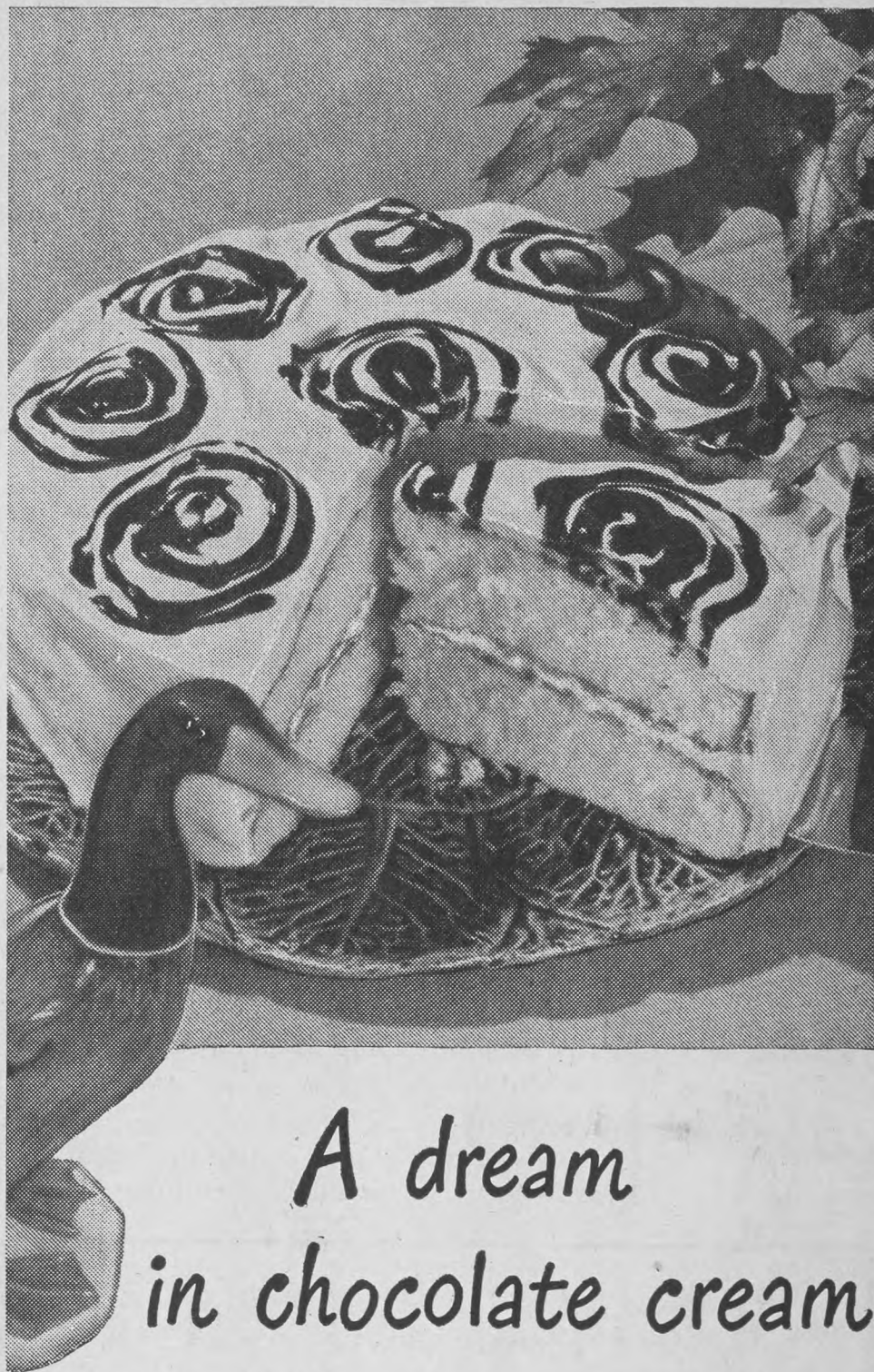
Virgie didn't smile. "No. And the feeling is mutual. I'm sure. Why do you come here?"

Francine laughed. "My, you are blunt, aren't you?" She stopped laughing abruptly. "I came here to see Rocky and if it worries you it makes me very happy."

"Miss Meadows, I'm not a student of your bar room repartee. I couldn't hope to compete with you there. Rocky and I are going to be married Saturday morning. We've got a license. We intend to use it. So why don't you make yourself scarce and make everybody happy?"

Her eyes narrowed sharply. "Stop shaking, my dear. You wouldn't be the first girl—I'm giving you the benefit of the doubt—who was left holding an unused license. To match your bluntness, my dear, I could tell you what to do with that license—if I weren't a lady."

Pop found Virgie later, staring out the window. He said, "You look like somebody stepped on your pet corn."



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Her smile was mirthless. "Dad, did you ever get a yearning to pull out a handful of pretty blond hair?"

Pop took her hand, looked at the fingernails, shook his head sadly. "You'll be spotting her too many inches of nail." He smacked his lips. "Honey, you got a bright head on your shoulders. I'll bet my dough you can out-maneuvre a blonde anytime."

She stared at him, her fists clenched at her sides. After a while a smile spread over her face, her fingers opened and she relaxed. Rocky, doing sitting-up exercises on the mat, stopped abruptly, his fingertips inches away from his toes. Virgie was talking to John Evans and the blond man was laughing at something she said. They seemed to be enjoying each other's company.

You don't know what keeps you up. For ten rounds you've been eating brown, soggy leather and you're tired, very tired. The canvas is stained with a lot of blood, your blood. How can you win, Rocky? The Champ is too fast, he won't stand still to let you explode your right hand . . . But you got to keep trying, you got to . . . The Champ has lost his poker face. He's got lines in his forehead, deep grooves full of sweat. Maybe he's worried, maybe he's scared. So you walk in, take two punches to land one, connect with a left and a right. But the Champ is rolling away. You

then with Francine but as the evening wore on it seemed as if every time he turned to Virgie for the next dance, she was out on the floor with John Evans. So it was Francine who monopolized most of his dances.

Francine suggested a ride out in the country. There was an inn out on Long Island that served the best food, had the best entertainment and the hottest band in the state. Rocky shook his head. He'd get to bed too late.

Virgie said, "Why, Rocky, you can sleep later tomorrow. It's only ten o'clock, too early to go home. Please, Rocky."

Rocky rode in Francine's roadster. Virgie in John Evans' car. It didn't seem odd at the time. Francine could have left her car home but as she'd said:

"John and I might want to stay late, then you and Virgie could take my car."

There was a funny look in Virgie's eyes when Francine had said that, an odd mixture of relief and triumph. Rocky shrugged his shoulders. He had enough trouble figuring out women without analyzing their facial expressions.

John Evans' car led the way. Rocky sloped in his seat, resting his head on the back of the seat. They'd just crossed the Queensboro Bridge when he heard a sound come out of Francine's mouth. It wasn't exactly a sob,



bob and weave and walk into a punch that stops you dead in your tracks. This is it, Rocky, the finish. You can't move your arms any more, you can't lift your legs. You won't . . . But you do. Somehow you find that extra strength. Somehow you move under a whistling right, connect with one of your own. The Champ goes back, his mouth open. Now there's blood on his mouth. A sob comes out of your chest. You hit him again and again and the water splashes. The Champ is down and when he gets up you just stand there and gulp air.

THE night before the fight the four of them went out together, Virgie and Rocky, John Evans and Francine. It was Rocky's night to relax and take his mind off the fight. Originally it was to be a two-party affair, Rocky and Virgie, but Francine had pouted when Rocky told her and finally, he'd asked Virgie if she'd mind company. To his surprise she'd readily agreed.

Until ten o'clock they danced at the Quarters. Rocky danced with Virgie

more like a gasp when a sudden pain grips you tight.

He sat up straight. Her hands were tight on the wheel. The car wobbled. Rocky grasped the wheel.

"I don't feel well," she said. "I think I'm going to be sick."

She managed to swing the car to the curb. They sat there for a while but she didn't feel any better.

Rocky said, "There's a doctor up the street."

She shook her head. "Take me home, Rocky. I—I'm sorry I had to spoil the party."

"That's all right," he said. "Virgie and John must be miles from here."

"When I get home, I'll call the Inn. You drive, Rocky."

ROCKY took the key from her and opened her apartment door. She passed him, flicked on the lights. He stood in a luxurious living room, the rosewood furniture glistening in the electric light, the fawn-colored rug thick, the gold and blue tapestries matching the couch and odd chairs. He whistled noiselessly.

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She read his mind. "Oh, I couldn't afford this layout. Not now, anyway. A friend—a girl friend now in California—let me have the place."

He noted in a dull sort of way that she seemed much better now. He sat down on the couch.

"You'd better call the Inn. Virgie and John will be worried."

She sat down beside him. "I'll call later. Right now, I want to talk to you, Rocky."

He said, "There was nothing wrong with you. You just wanted to get away from Virgie and John Evans."

She said calmly, "Forgive me, Rocky. I had to talk to you alone and this seemed the only way. Rocky, I've got an offer to return to Hollywood, a part in a new picture. Oh, it isn't a very big role but my agent thinks it might lead to bigger, better parts."

He looked at her with a quiet, level glance. "It's what you want, isn't it?"

She got up, walked around the room, tall, stately, beautiful. She stopped in front of him. "Rocky, what do I want? Tell me. Tell me you don't want me to go."

His mouth was very dry all of a sudden. He lifted his big palms up. "I'll miss you, Francine. I'm going to miss you a lot."

She sat down, took his hands. Her voice was throbbing, pleading. "Don't let me go, Rocky. Tell me you want me to stay here with you." Her face was close to his, the lips partly open, the eyes creasing his face. "Rocky, I love you. You know that."

He said, "It's no good, Francine."

"You love me, Rocky. Tell me you love me?"

Her perfume was sweet, tantalizing, thick in his head, sweet fog... "Virgie and I are getting married Saturday."

"You don't love her, Rocky. It's me you love, me, Francine."

He kissed her and her lips burned against his, sweet lips, wet, soft, clinging. "God, Francine," he said hoarsely.

She was panting now. "You and I, Rocky, we were always meant for each other. I'm in your blood and you're part of me. Kiss me, darling. Hold me tight."

HE heard the key in the lock. Francine stiffened, her eyes full of disgust as she stared over his shoulder. Rocky turned. John Evans and Virgie were in the doorway. Rocky got up. It was quiet, a long, heavy quietness. Rocky looked at Francine. She was pale and there was sickness in her eyes.

John Evans said apologetically to Francine, "I'm sorry. I didn't know you'd be here." He smiled briefly. "Otherwise, I would have knocked."

Rocky looked down at the key in his hand. His eyes narrowed, the muscles in his jaws tightened.

Francine's lips moved. "I can explain everything, Rocky."

He ignored her. He said to Virgie, "What the hell are you doing here?"

Virgie's eyes were wide and innocent. "John wanted to show me his stamp collection so we decided to let you go to the Inn while we came back here."

Francine looked at her suspiciously. "You're very clever, but you just wasted your time. Rocky..."

Rocky said, "I know. You can explain everything." His face was dark and scowling. "I need a lot of explaining." He took Virgie's arm. "First, you

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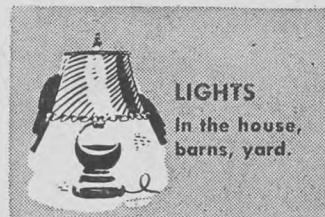
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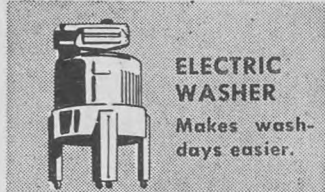
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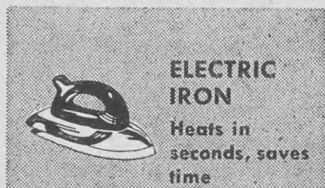
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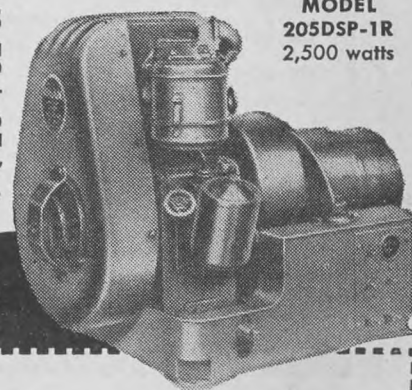
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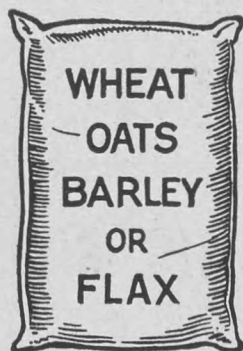
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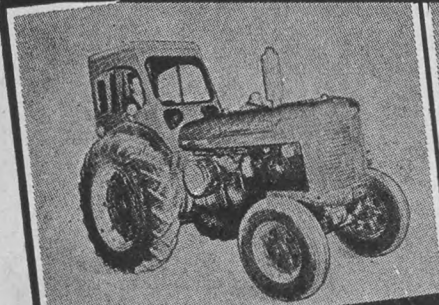


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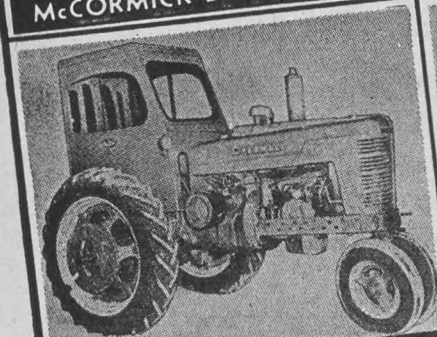
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got some talking to do, a lot of talking." He steered her to the door.

Francine cried, "I'll see you tomorrow, Rocky."

"Tomorrow," he said, "maybe I can think straight."

They went out the door, into the elevator, out into the street. They walked a block.

Rocky said, "I don't hear a word."

Virgie stared straight ahead. "John told me he had a stamp—"

"It was a dirty trick," he cried.

"Nothing is dirty in war and love," she said, her voice quivering.

"There must be an explanation. I mean about John Evans and that key."

She cried, "Don't stay up all night trying to figure it out."

She opened the door of a cab standing on the brightly-lighted corner.

"Wait a minute," Rocky cried.

"Don't run out on me now."

"Good-night," she said, slamming closed the door.

"You haven't explained—"

The cab pulled away from the corner and he stood there staring after it, anger and bewilderment etched on his punch-marked face.

YOU meet the Champ in the centre of the ring. You touch gloves and the Champ looks tired, his bloody face is drawn. It's been a long time since he went fifteen rounds. And you're not tired. You got that extra juice in your legs. That's what you think. Then the Champ hits you in the belly—brings his punches up to the head and the extra strength is gone, like the blood on the canvas it just comes out of you. You time your punches. One right hand, just one . . . The Champ pokes with a slow left. You come under it and swing once, twice. The Champ moves back. You put your weight behind a right, let everything you got ride on the punch. The Champ shudders. The breath is a hard rock in your chest but you keep coming forward. The Champ reaches out to grab and hold. You send a right hand past his guard. You feel the punch go up your arm to your shoulder, down your spine. The Champ is down, like a ton of bricks he goes down. You move to a neutral corner on wooden legs. The count is six. You lean on the ropes and look at the crowd. The count is eight. You turn and the count is nine and the Champ is up and the bell is ringing. The announcer is collecting the slips. You sit in the corner and the two judges have voted.

Now the referee. The announcer goes to the microphone which comes

down out of the lights. It's quiet. The announcer reads the first slip. The judge voted eight rounds for the Champ, seven for you. The second judge says it's your fight nine rounds to five and one even. The crowd is waiting. Pop Beal is tense at your side. One more vote, one more slip of paper. Then it comes. Seven rounds for the Champ, six for you and two even . . .

ROCKY lay on the dressing room table and soon the doctor had finished sewing up his cuts. Pop Beal handed Rocky an ice bag and it felt good on his battered face. Pop stood over him, worried.

Pop said, "You shoulda got Rocky. It was close but you shoulda got it."

Rocky's lips hurt when he spoke. He said, "The Champ is good. I banged my right hand flush on the button—" He shifted, the ice bag closed his eyes.

When he opened them again Francine had come in. She was smoking a cigarette, the smoke curling around her lips and nose.

She said, "So you didn't make Rocky. Don't let it get you down. Next time you can't miss."

Pop Beal blurted. "There won't be a next time, not if I can help it. How many more punches you think he can take around the head?" Then to Rocky, "I'm sorry, kid, but I had to speak my piece."

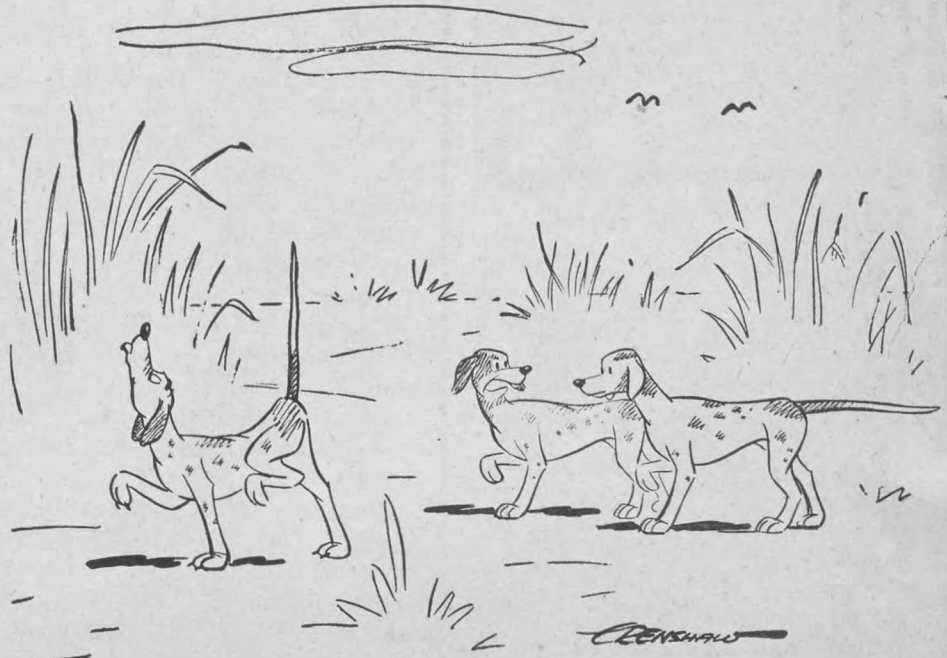
Francine blew smoke through her nose. "I think Rocky is smart enough to know how much more he can take. Next time, Rocky, it'll be Rocky Sears, Champion of the World. A million dollars, Rocky. You said so yourself."

Rocky said, "Pop, catch." He threw the ice bag and Pop caught it skillfully with one hand. Rocky swung around his long legs dangling over the side of the table.

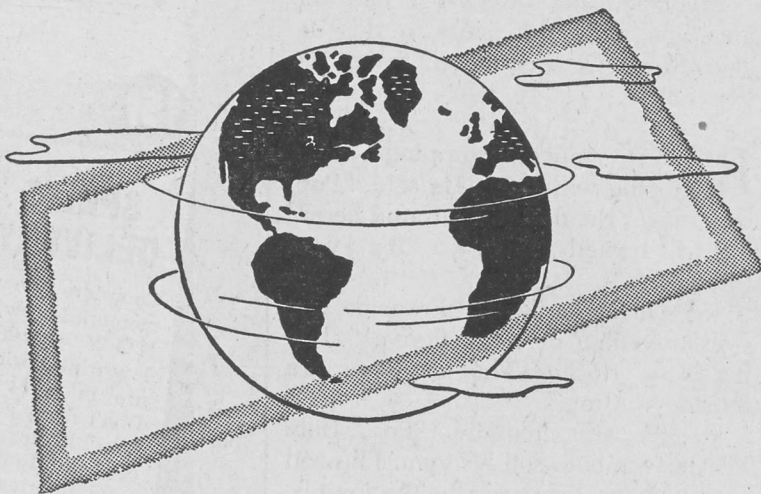
The door opened and Joe Oliver, the grey-haired boxing promoter, came in. "Rocky, my boy," he sang, patting his paunch, "you had that crowd standing on their ears. You know what a return fight with the Champ will draw? Pop! Pop Beal, come over here where I can talk to both of you."

"No," Pop said, the blood thick in his face. "Rocky's not getting any younger. Next time maybe the Champ will train a little harder. It won't be this close."

Joe Oliver smacked his thick lips. "You talk like you got no confidence in your boy." He turned to Rocky. "Look, kid, here's the set-up. The



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The Countrywoman

Groups Study Farm Houses

HERE is much to be said in favor of the practice, which has grown in popularity of recent years, of holding group discussions of a given topic. It is a good way to stimulate ideas, pool information and experience and to broaden the viewpoint of those who take part. As a people, we Canadians are apt to be rather inarticulate on many subjects which definitely concern our own conditions and welfare. A training in thinking things out, discussing them impartially and coming to some sort of group opinion or finding is good for us. It helps the individual who takes part to come to an opinion or leaves him or her with a desire to get further information. If the considered opinion reached is put in some tangible recorded form as a finding or a report it serves as a good lead for those who are entrusted with leadership, locally, provincially or nationally.

Many organizations have their own study groups for special topics. These may be serious, cultural or merely social in intent. Many are familiar with the type of discussion promoted by CBC's radio Farm Forum and Citizens' Forum. Many local groups take up the topic from that lead and carry on. Forums give us the opportunity to hear many viewpoints discussed and show us that complete agreement is seldom possible; indeed that disagreement may be a necessary and healthy thing. When we have learnt to disagree and carry on amiably in a discussion we have made definite progress. To quote Hon. L. B. Pearson, speaking recently on a national broadcast: "To disagree and be disagreeable about it, is a sign of immaturity."

LAST year some 7,000 or 8,000 rural women across the Dominion worked in groups, discussing Better Farm Housing. They recorded certain facts concerning: Size of family, their preference as to size of house, number and use of various rooms, heating equipment and other conveniences which go to make life more pleasant and comfortable. They worked in groups, registered under the name of their secretary, filled out a rather complicated questionnaire form, adding comments as they saw fit and sent in their completed work to be judged along with others from other groups in their province. They did so because of a competition launched by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, a crown company of the Dominion government, working in close co-operation with a department of the province concerned—usually the department of agriculture. Cash prizes amounting to \$400 were offered in each province.

The purpose of the competition was to encourage discussion on how a farm house should be planned; how equipment should be installed and to discover the needs and preferences of farm people. Thus much first-hand information was secured directly from farm people. It is recorded in tangible form and can be made the basis of further study and discussion. It will serve as a useful guide to those who are now carrying on research on rural housing at the various universities of the four western provinces. Each province has analyzed the findings of groups which entered. It is planned to have a national summary compiled, which, no doubt, will show quite a distinct variation of statement of needs and preferences in farm housing.

Taking part in the competition were groups of organized farm women, Women's Institutes, Homemakers' Clubs, church groups and other social clubs. In some cases there was difficulty as to properly defining "farm" women. Were they to be those actually living on a farm or could town and village

Material of interest to home-makers brought out in studies made in the various provinces during the past year.

by AMY J. ROE.



Judges and consultants discuss Alberta entries. Seated: Mrs. W. Schroter, U.F.W.A., Miss Y. Ring, Prairie Research Centre, Manitoba, Mr. R. H. Douglas, Edmonton, Central Mortgage and Housing Corp., Mrs. J. P. White, W.I. Standing: Miss C. Judson, Home Designing Specialist, F. H. Newton, Chr. Prairie Rural Housing Committee, and Mrs. Vera MacDonald, Supervisor Women's Extension Work. Three last all of Alberta Dept. of Agriculture.

women who had lived on a farm at some time or whose husbands still actually farmed be included? Each province was left to decide what groups could register for the competition, and to appoint the judges. Many more entered than finished. Probably the lateness with which some of the questionnaires were ready, coupled with unfavorable weather and bad roads in the spring hindered many women from attending meetings in the country. But it is a good omen that nearly 10,000 women were thinking and planning for better farm houses, across the Dominion, in 1948.

OF the three prairie provinces, Alberta had the largest enrollment, with 230 groups starting out and with 106 actually completing entries. These represented 1,773 members. The completed analysis of the Alberta reports is not yet to hand but an earlier statement shows that 1,089 of the rural women in that province prefer a one-storey house; 534 voted for a one-and-one-half-storey house, while 114 favored a two-storey house. If making additions to the house, 954 favored adding it to the main floor, while 485 would secure extra space by finishing a second storey. Over half reported that hired help is only seasonal, while only 172 reported all-year hiring of male help.

First prize went to Arrowwood U.F.W.A.; second to Burdette Women's Institute; third to Denton Women's Institute, while Caley W.I. and Delia U.F.W.A. tied for fourth place. There were ten prizes of \$20 each for the next best, five of which went to U.F.W.A. groups and others to individual church and social clubs.

The analysis of Saskatchewan's report showed that 123 groups entered and 68 completed entries, this representing 996 members. The average farm was shown to be just under one section per family and it is pointed out: "This figure may be at variance since in some areas farms are fairly large and several areas reporting large farms would weigh the results considerably in their favor." The average number of people in a family was 3.94. The number employing no farm help was 446; employing yearly farm help, 59; employing seasonal farm help, 373; seasonal household help, 90, and employing yearly household help, 12.

The reports showed unanimously in favor for insulation of new buildings and as improvement on old buildings. "Relatively few groups considered public power lines as a possibility within the realm of hope. With only one exception the groups voted unanimously to have all homes wired at the time of construction, to make the future installation of electric power less difficult." As with Alberta, the majority, 537, voted for a one-storey house, with 335 in favor of a one-and-one-half-storey and only 58 asking for a two-storey house. In voting on additions, 332 were in favor of addition on the main floor and 388 for the completion of a second floor.

Members listed the use that was made of each room in the house. In regard to dining space 263 wanted a separate dining room; 146 reported eating in the kitchen only, and 543 expressed a preference for having a dining area in the living room. A total of 831 out of 936 voted for a separate utility room, but there were a few who disagreed, wishing to take care of the few extra things with their kitchen work and relegating the rest to a basement. The possible uses suggested for a utility room were: Care of milk supply; dressing meat and poultry; canning; laundry, washing-up before meals; hanging work clothes; caring for poultry project, eggs, etc.; ironing; washing vegetables, and cistern pump.

Basements were preferred by 936, which was fairly unanimous. Reasons were not elaborated but mentioned: added space and making heating facilities possible. Farm women want to make provision for bathrooms, even if running water is not yet available. Of 931 voting on this question, only one wished to delay her bathroom until running water was provided. Over half would have the bathroom on the first floor, 105 would have it on the second floor and 167 would provide bathrooms on both floors. A shower for a quick clean-up from the grime of farm work was favored by 716 out of 812, the majority favoring it in the bathroom, while 197 would place a shower in the utility room.

In Saskatchewan the first prize went to Golden Sheaf Homemakers' Club, Gull Lake; second to Richard Homemakers' Club; third to Sunshine Homemakers' Club, Arcola; fourth to Almonte Women's Missionary Society of the United Church, Wiseton.

MANITOBA had a smaller number with 70 groups entering and 22 completing the work, representing 299 women. The summary was worked out on percentage basis rather than actual figures. Thus we find the same trend as in the other two provinces in regard to type of house favored: One-storey, 42 per cent; one-and-one-half-storey, 37 per cent, and for two-storey house, 21 per cent. But for additions 32 per cent favored them to be made on the ground floor while 68 per cent expressed a preference for completion of a second floor. The reasons given for wanting a house that will permit of further additions were: A change in the finances available; a change in the number in a family. The reasons given why 68 per cent favored building a house the full size when constructed were: It results in a better appearing house; the upstairs can be left unfinished if funds are such that the whole can not be completed; a better heating arrangement is achieved.

Manitoba's first prize went to the Rugby Red Cross Group, Brandon; second to Howard Quilting Club, Cartwright, and third prize to Clear Lake Busy Bee Club, Onanole. There were six in the honorable mention class.

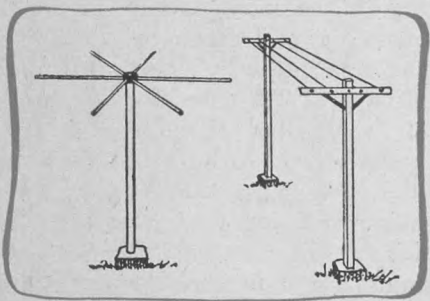
Hang Them To Dry

Practical ways of checking clothes drying equipment.

by MARGARET M. SPEECHLY

NEXT time you take a long bus trip, notice the clothes lines along the way. Most are strung in a haphazard manner from a tree to a post to a granary or the house, regardless of whether the arrangement is convenient. If you are not entirely satisfied with your own set-up, study it carefully, decide what it lacks, and start planning improvements before you waste any more of your precious strength. Bring up the subject of drying clothes at your next club meeting and you are sure of a lively discussion, and perhaps will get useful ideas from the experience of other women.

When the drying ground is some distance from the back door you can easily walk miles back and forth with loads of wet clothes. Even a few yards



week by week will raise the total, and the rougher the ground the more energy it takes to walk or push a cart. It may be that what you need is a new location closer to the house, on smoother land.

A grassy spot is ideal, but the grass must be kept reasonably short or walking will be tiring especially after rain. Cutting can be done with the least effort if the men are able to run the mower around the area. If you keep sheep you can use nature's own mowing machines for cropping the grass.

Drying is speedier in a sunny location on the south side of a bluff, especially when the lines run east and west. Naturally it would not pay to pick a spot close to the summerfallow or the highway on account of the dust.

Protection from the prevailing winds is something else to think about. Flapping in a blast definitely wears out materials by straining the yarns, damaging the seams and fraying edges and corners, all of which adds to the mending and hastens the day when you need to buy new things.

What is even worse, hanging out clothes in an exposed position is hard on the human fabric. Battling a wind not only takes a lot of strength, but a few slaps on the head with wet things are enough to fray any temper. If possible take advantage of a shelter-belt in order to conserve clothing and reduce personal wear and tear.

Or you might like to arrange your lines so that you can hang up the entire wash without going outside. For this scheme you need an opening in the side of a covered back porch, large enough to permit sheets to be put through without touching anything. A pulley attached to the house allows you to draw the line along as it fills. The pulley at the other end is secured to a post. An arrangement like this not only saves miles of travel but it cuts off wind and sun. It is not

practical if the road runs past the door because the clothes would interfere with the traffic. In a climate like this, do not even consider cutting a hole in the side of the house. The scheme is only suitable for a back porch.

EVEN if the location of your drying ground is ideal you can still waste a lot of energy through lack of lines. Putting out an entire wash without delay has an effect on your morale, while if you have to wait for space the job drags on and the extra trips back and forth build up fatigue.

Aim to have enough lines to take the biggest wash of the year. It does not matter whether they are parallel as in the drawing or strung from posts in an enclosure, or set in a revolving reel. The important thing is to have sturdy posts, set in cement, well braced to take the strain of holding wet clothes in a breeze. Rust-resisting pipes or posts treated to prevent rot are equally good, but each support must be anchored in cement. Regard these as a lifetime investment and refuse to be satisfied with make-shifts.

See that the cross-bars are sturdy and well secured to the posts. For stationary lines, solid No. 9 wire is a good choice. Woven wire collects dirt and eventually the strands break and damage fabrics. Aluminum wire is strong but no matter how many times it is wiped, it leaves black marks on the clothes. Rope is cheap but it stretches and needs to be taken down each time or it collects dust. Plastic lines are easy to keep clean. I am using two types, one consists of a central core of rope covered with plastic, the other is wire coated with plastic. They stay out in all weathers and so far are well worth the difference in price.

No matter what you select for lines, be sure the ends are securely anchored to the posts with large hooks. See that no rough ends of wire are left to cause tears or holes in clothing on a windy day. Cover the joins in pulley-lines with a gadget sold for the purpose. This allows the line to operate smoothly over the pulley.

STRETCH the lines taut to prevent sagging and get them tightened from time to time so that you do not have to bother with props. Thirty feet between posts is enough. Space the lines evenly at the right height for you, in order to reduce stretching. Six feet is about right for an average person, but test it first to be sure. Pulleys

save a lot of steps by allowing you to shift the line at will.

While you are at it, check your cart to see if it is high enough. When you hang out clothes you should be able to pick up the clothes from the basket on the cart without bending.

Have you sufficient clothes pins for hanging out the entire wash? If you must wait for some of the things to dry because you have run out of pegs, you are wasting valuable time and energy. Pegs are so cheap that it is foolish to do without plenty. When each article can be attached to the line separately, the wash dries more quickly and the clothes are easier to take down.

Wooden pins, either straight or spring-type, should be made of smooth, sound, hard wood. They are the cheapest but have the disadvantage of absorbing dirt, grease and moisture and if rough they are bound to snag delicate fabrics and stockings. Plastic pins cost more than wood but are smooth, non-absorbent and easy to use. Though stainless steel pins have been on the market they proved inferior in construction and design. In buying, look for pegs that are durable, well made, smooth, easy to clean, and capable of holding wet garments on the line even in a strong wind.

The ease with which spring clothes pins can be opened is important when you hang out a big wash. This is determined by the location of the spring. It should be set far enough from the open end to provide easy leverage. Even as little as one-eighth inch either way makes a difference to the way the pegs operate. In the new plastic spring pins you will find not only smoothness, but well placed springs of sturdy rustless material. A bend at the side of each spring reduces the tendency to come apart.

Be sure to have a good container for pegs. Leaving them on the line from week to week is poor policy because they collect dust and mark the clothes. Some people keep them in an apron with large pockets which they tie around the waist. Others claim this tires them and add shoulder straps to take the weight. Still others use a bag that slides along the line. A square bag with a large opening, suspended on a clothes hanger is easy to make, or you can bind a large square of ticking or denim and attach the four corners to a harness snap or hammock hook. This can be pushed along the line.

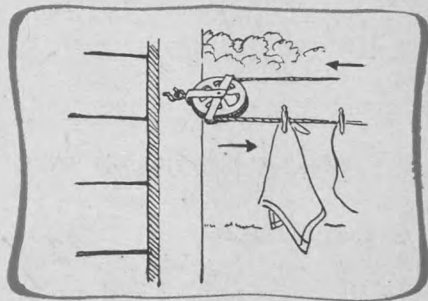
To avoid lifting heavy loads of wet clothes, use two or three baskets instead of one. Smaller sizes are easier to get through the doorway. Buy the firmest woven baskets you can find. Thin slats make a lighter basket but do not last long.

No discussion about drying clothes is complete without mentioning indoor arrangements. Considering that as a rule you have to hang things inside from November to March, it is important to reduce to the limit the clutter and discomfort connected with the job.

Some of the steaminess can be avoided by pressing out as much water as possible when you put the articles through the wringer. Adjust the tension on the rollers, put the pieces through evenly and finally fold each one another way and run it through again. When you try this you will be surprised how much moisture can be pressed out, especially from those heavy combinations.

The extra time this takes is well spent because the clothes dry more rapidly, are a better color and there will be no drips from the heavy clothing. Another way of hastening the drying of an article is to place it between folds of a dry bath towel and run it through the wringer a few times.

Aim to have sufficient drying space to take the entire washing. This gets

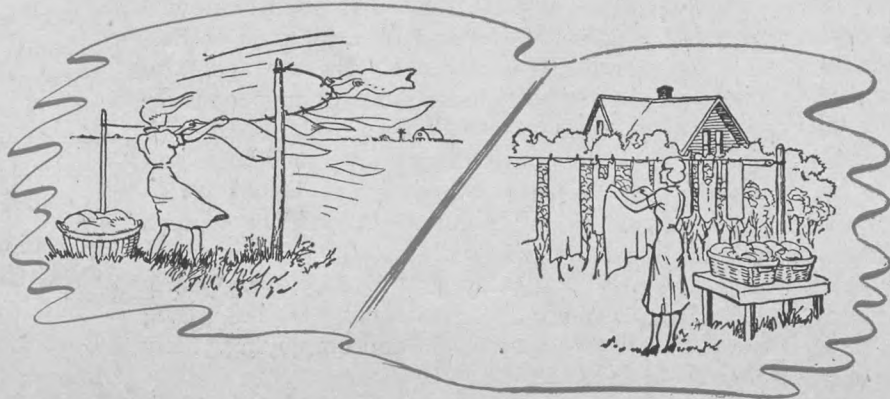


the washing out of the way earlier in the week and the clothes look better when they do not need to lie in wet heaps waiting for line-space. If you believe in the magic of frost, put the white cottons and linens on a rack in the house and set it on the veranda. Never submit woollens or rayons to such extremes of temperature.

HAVE you an empty room or an attic where you can put up lines for the things that take a long time to dry? A place on the ground floor is the handiest, but vacant space anywhere is valuable because it prevents the kitchen from getting cluttered. A good basement will take some of the heaviest articles, but it should be light and free from dust.

No matter where you put things to dry, see that the lines are well anchored at a height you can reach without effort. Keep the clothes pins in the room where you do the hanging and if there are two places, divide the supply so you can do the job without delay.

Folding racks are a grand help in winter. Have two or three and use them to add to your drying space. Use them for smaller articles like towels, diapers and so forth. Being movable you can place them near a



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register or heater in rooms other than the kitchen.

In buying racks, look for sturdy construction with bars well fitted into the frame. Test with your bare hand the surface of the wood to detect roughness that would catch fine fabrics. Open the rack to make sure that it does not wobble. Have you considered a ceiling rack for the kitchen or the drying room? Several bars made of smooth wood, that can be hoisted out of the way by ropes and pulleys will take a lot of wet clothes out of the way.

To speed up the drying of stockings and socks use the metal, wood or plastic dryers that are on the market. These help to prevent shrinkage, make the hose more comfortable to wear, and reduce darning. Do not make the mistake of hanging them over the range or register. I get the best results by tying each pair of forms together and hanging them over a towel bar where the temperature is even.

These are only some of the ways of dealing with wet clothes. As you go about the job week by week, make a practice of checking your methods and equipment in order to save time and strength.

Household Hints

Washing furniture may sound strange but there's nothing which can't be washed if done correctly. Soap-jelly—made by boiling two quarts of water with one cup of shaved or packaged soap—is necessary for the job. A supply of this may be kept on hand in a covered jar (in a convenient place) and when wanted, it needs only to be thinned with water to the right consistency, then beaten with an egg beater till it lathers. To clean that soiled upholstery—chair, divan or what-have-you—first, either brush with a good stiff brush or vacuum the pieces to remove the dirt. Then apply thick suds with a sponge or soft brush using a circular motion. As the suds looks dirty, wipe it off with a sponge squeezed out of clear water, then go over the same place with a dry cloth. If the suds is dry, the top of the piece of furniture should be dry by the time the bottom is reached.—Ruby Price Weeks.

Improper storage. Jars should not be packed or stored before they are cold. Be sure to avoid too warm or too cold a place for the storing, and keep the jars away from all danger of frost. A dark place is advisable as light affects the color of the food preserved.

When hanging up the family wash, set the basket of wet clothes on a table in the yard so you don't have to stoop over to pick up the pieces of laundry. A table mounted on wheels saves even more time and effort.

Children's bean bags for play may be made from scraps of closely-woven material, such as denim, cut and stitched to a four by six-inch size and then filled with one cup of beans, dried cherry pits or small, smooth pebbles.

Brush, never wash, the bag of a vacuum cleaner. Washing removes the special finish that makes the bag dust proof.

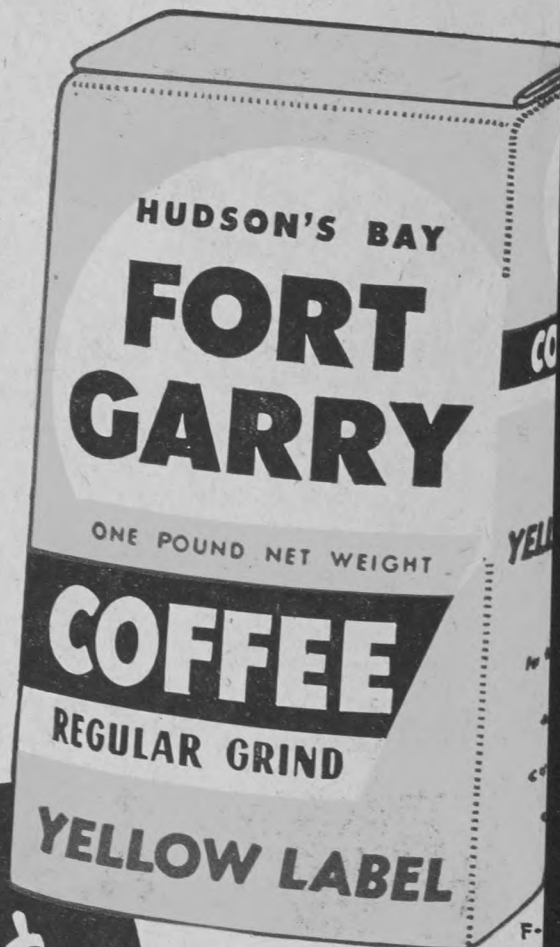
Pillow cases do not wear out so fast if they are two inches wider and ten inches longer than the pillow.



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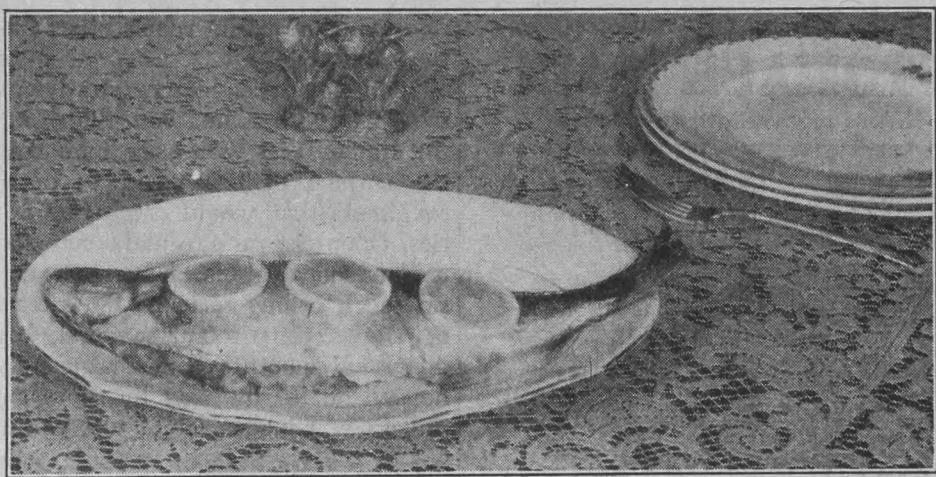
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Stuffed, baked whitefish served with lemon is delicious.

Fish For Friday

From good basic methods you may get variety in fish dishes.

by EFFIE BUTLER

YES! but not only Fridays; fish is good fare for any day. These guide-lines may aid you in buying and handling fish to advantage. The price of fish indicates nothing regarding nutritive value; it reflects supply and availability. Don't overlook the cheaper fish, you may be missing something good through old buying habits, and remember it is economical to buy fish that's in season. Fish is good only when it is fresh. Freshness is indicated by wholesome smell and firm flesh full of juices. Frozen fish to be fresh should be kept frozen until used. Thaw it as you cook it. Outside skin left on fish that is being baked or boiled keeps in the fat and is an aid to finer flavor.

Fish recipes are largely interchangeable. Let the knowledge of this inspire you to adventure. With these recipes as your guide go "fishing" for something different by using fresh and canned fish which to you are untried.

Stuffed Baked Whitefish

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 or 4 lbs. fish | 2 T. bacon fat or butter |
| 2 c. finely cubed bread crumbs | 1 tsp. salt |
| 2 T. finely chopped onions | ¼ tsp. pepper |
| | 1 T. finely chopped parsley |

Clean and scale fish. Wash and dry. Fry onions in fat. Add bread crumbs, parsley, salt and pepper and just enough milk to moisten. Stuff fish and sew up opening. Brush with melted fat using a pastry brush. Place fish on well oiled baking pan. Bake for 10 minutes in very hot oven, 500 degrees Fahr., then reduce heat to 400 degrees and bake 30 minutes longer. Lift carefully to hot platter, remove stitching, and garnish with lemon slices. The stuffing may be varied by adding finely chopped celery, or one teaspoon sage or thyme or summer savory, or lemon rind and juice.

Macaroni And Fish Casserole

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 2 c. macaroni (8 ounces) | 2 c. medium-thick white sauce (or tomato sauce) |
| 2 c. cooked flaked fish | 1 T. butter |
| 2 tsp. lemon juice | ½ c. fine bread crumbs |

Other macaroni products such as spaghetti or broad egg noodles may be substituted for plain macaroni. Boil macaroni in a large amount of rapidly-boiling water until tender. Drain in sieve, rinse with hot water, drain again. Spread cooked macaroni in a greased baking dish. Cover with flaked fish and sprinkle on lemon juice. Mix in sauce lightly. Melt the butter and mix in bread crumbs, sprinkle over the sauce. Cook in moderate oven, 350 degrees Fahr. until thoroughly heated and nicely browned on top. Serve hot with garnish of lemon or parsley.

Stuffed Fillets

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 2 full sized fillets of whitefish, haddock, pick-erel, etc. | 1 T. lemon juice or vinegar |
|---|-----------------------------|

Rub fish all over with lemon juice or vinegar. Prepare any one of the variations of stuffing used in above baked whitefish. Put two-thirds of this mixture between two fillets and place them on a well oiled baking pan. Brush top of fish with fat and cover with remaining crumb mixture. Place in hot oven, 500 degrees Fahr. for 15 minutes. For the first 10 minutes invert another pan over fish to prevent crumbs from browning too rapidly, remove the cover the last five minutes. Serve with Sauce Tartare.

Salmon Souffle

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1½ c. canned salmon or any flaked cooked fish | 4 T. flour |
| | 3 or 4 eggs |
| | 1 c. milk |
| | Salt and pepper |
| 3 T. butter | |

Melt butter, add flour, mix well, and cook for a few minutes stirring constantly. Then add hot milk gradually, stirring until smooth. Season. When sauce is well cooked, cool, then add beaten egg yolks and fish. When cold, add the beaten egg whites. Pour mixture in a well buttered baking dish and cook 30 to 45 minutes in a moderate oven, 300 degrees Fahr. Serves four or five.

Chowder Supper

This "complete-meal" dish is worthy of trial by those to whom it may be new. Almost any white-meated lean fish is suitable for use in chowders.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2 lbs. lean fish fillets (boneless) | ½ c. salt pork or bacon chopped into small pieces |
| 3 c. potatoes sliced thin | ½ tsp. salt |
| ½ c. minced onions | ¼ tsp. pepper |
| | 1 c. milk or water |

In a heavy kettle or Dutch oven, fry the pork pieces to a golden brown, add the onions and cook them to a light, yellow color. Add the potatoes and seasoning, add the milk or water and cook until the potatoes are half done. Now add the fish and cook until the potatoes are soft. Remove any skin adhering to fish, and break into coarse flakes.

Basic Sauce For Fish

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 2 T. butter | 1 c. milk |
| 2 T. flour | Salt and pepper |

Melt butter, add flour, blend well, cook one minute, add milk gradually stirring constantly. Season, bring to boiling point. Cook three minutes.

VARIATIONS:

Parsley sauce: Add finely minced parsley.

Cheese sauce. Add ½ cup of grated Canadian cheese.

Egg sauce: Add two chopped, hard-cooked eggs.

Chopped oysters, minced onion, chili sauce, chopped gherkins, pickle relish, mushrooms, etc., make interesting variations when added to a basic sauce.

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Ways With Prunes

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PRUNES play a leading role in puddings, pies, and desserts. Prunes in muffins, cookies, and cake fillings add fruitiness and moisture. Their natural laxative quality, which is not destroyed in cooking or baking, makes them an excellent breakfast fruit when stewed. For those who avoid sugar candies the natural sugar of dried prunes, figs, dates, etc., satisfies the craving for sweets and substitutes vitamin and mineral-rich-energy for the straight food-energy values of sugar candies. A salad of prunes stuffed generously with cottage cheese is equally suitable to sophisticated luncheon or simple supper menus. Fry whole cooked pitted prunes in butter and serve as tasty garnishings with ham, sausages or other meats. Make use of your kitchen scissors to clip prune-meats.

Stewed Prunes

Wash prunes; cover with water and soak overnight. Cook slowly at simmering point in same water in which they were soaked until prunes are tender but not broken. Slow cooking develops the natural fruit sugars and no extra sweetening will be required. If, however, extra sugar is used, add it after the prunes are cooked but still hot enough to dissolve it.

Prune Whip

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 3 egg whites | ¼ c. chopped |
| 3 T. sugar | walnuts or |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | cocoanut |
| 1 c. prune pulp | |

Beat egg whites until stiff; add sugar and vanilla. Fold in prune pulp and walnuts. Pour in ungreased pudding dish; set in pan of hot water; bake in moderate oven, 325 degrees Fahr., for 30 minutes or until firm in centre. Serve hot or cold with custard sauce made of yolks of eggs or whipped cream. The walnuts may be omitted and cocoanut sprinkled over the top before baking. Serves six. This prune whip is most delicious baked in a pastry shell.

Prune Betty

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 2 c. cooked, pit- | ¾ c. hot prune |
| ted prunes | juice |
| 1 c. toasted fine | 2 or 3 T. orange |
| bread crumbs | marmalade |
| 1 T. butter | |

Butter a baking dish. Cover bottom with bread crumbs; add a layer of prunes, a layer of marmalade and a layer of crumbs. Continue until all are used, having last layer crumbs. Dot the top with bits of butter. Pour hot prune juice over all. Bake in moderate oven, 350 degrees Fahr. for 20 minutes. Serves four.

Prune Snow-balls

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Cooked pitted | Cooked rice |
| prunes | |

Have as many five-inch squares of cheesecloth as you have persons to serve. Spread two or three tablespoons of hot, cooked rice on each cloth. Place three or four cooked, pitted prunes in the centre. Draw corners of cloth up so rice forms a ball. Tie securely. Drop into pot of boiling water and cook 10 minutes. Remove balls from bag; serve with cream and sugar or custard sauce.

Children will love these surprise snow-balls.

Prune Sandwich Filling

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 c. steamed | ¼ tsp. salt |
| prunes | ½ c. cottage or |
| 1 T. melted | cream cheese |
| butter | Dash of paprika |

Steam prunes over boiling water until tender. Mix well with other ingredients and spread on whole wheat or graham bread.—M. E. B.

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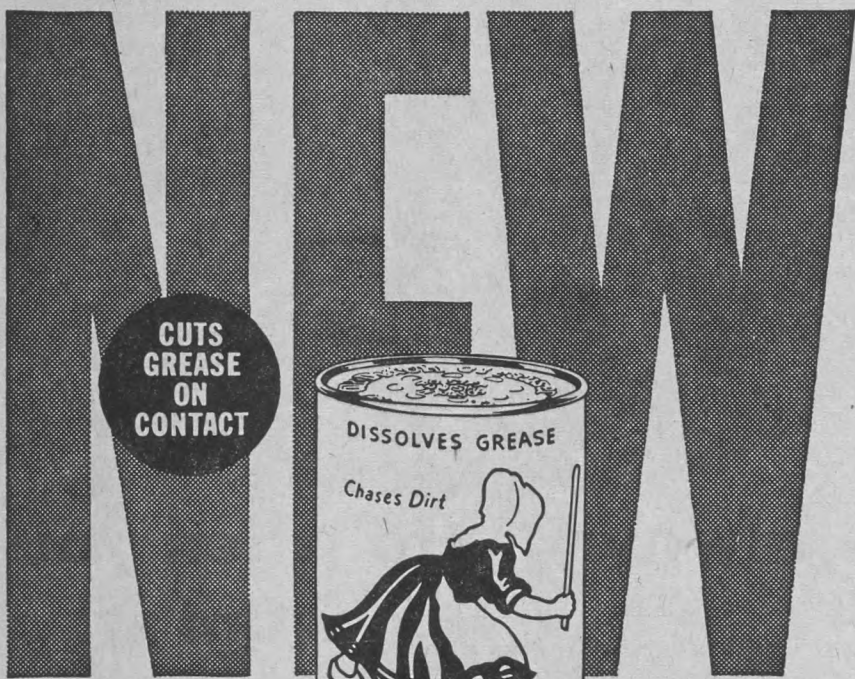
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by LORETTA MILLER



Naturalness and ease make for charm.

"SHE'S really not very pretty but she has a charming voice," or, "she's not at all attractive but she walks like a queen," or, "she doesn't have a nice figure but she looks so very important sitting down," are three remarks that might very well apply to any girl not known for her facial beauty. Pitching the voice just right so that it is easy to listen to and pronouncing the words distinctly add charm to one's personality. Walking with the head held high and with light, airy steps certainly gives importance to one's carriage, and sitting down with shoulders erect so that the upper-body is drawn up to its full height makes a charming picture regardless of the "standing" figure. All three of these, or any one, can add immeasurably to the personality and charm of the individual, regardless of features, complexion, or figure.

Telephone operators, speakers, professional people and all who come in contact with the general public know the importance of using a pleasant voice and pronouncing words so that they can be easily understood. It is the combination of pitching the voice so that it is almost musical and forming each word correctly that makes listening pleasant. Every word must "stand" alone and with proper punctuation given.

Two of the basic rules of speaking correctly are flexibility of the lips and tongue, and proper breathing. The breathing actually controls the pitch of the voice, making it register in the high, medium or low range. Try a deep voice, then pitch it to a high, squeaky key as you cup one hand over your ear and listen. Keep trying various "keys" until you find one that is most pleasing. Then make that voice yours!

BREATHE normally as you go through the following lip exercises: Stand erect, or sit with the chest raised, back straight and with head held slightly upward and make an exaggerated movement with your lips as you say "A." Do this leisurely, giving the "A" a chance to register, then repeat the second vowel "E." You will notice that with the "A" your chin was

thrust forward as it was dropped just a little. Now with the "E" your lower jaw returns to normal as you exhale and slide your chin out ever so little.

As you repeat the "I" your mouth actually forms a circle as you separate your lips. The sound is made in the throat as you exhale. (The "I" seems to come from the roof of the mouth or the nose.) The exaggerated "O" formation of the lips exercises all of the muscles around the mouth as you repeat "O." The next, and last vowel, "U" is formed just back of the teeth as your lips go out just a little. You will notice that with this letter the muscles at the corners of the lips are tightened. These muscles return to normal when the vowel is completed.

Repeating the vowels several times each day will give the lips splendid exercise, keeping them flexible so that you will find it easier to pronounce your words correctly. Give ample time to each vowel, never permitting them to run together. Go slowly at first, then gradually repeat them rather fast, but distinctly. It is the rapid repetition of the vowels, the alphabet or single words that exercises the muscles around the lips. Such simple words as "owl," "even," "tent," "chop," are splendid practice words. Practice speaking correctly and it will soon become a part of your personality.

Is your carriage regal or do you simply move along as best you can by placing one foot ahead of the other? Regardless of your present carriage or figure, you can walk like a queen. Holding the body correctly, and with the action coming from the hips as you step along, will give even a slow pace a look of importance.

Begin to improve your carriage with this basic exercise: Stand with your shoulders against a wall and your feet about ten inches away from the wall. The chin should be raised and the back of the head must rest against the wall. Take a normal breath as you raise your right knee, bringing the right foot up to touch the left knee. Then return the right foot to the floor and repeat the movement with the left leg. Go through this exercise ten times with each leg.

NEXT, standing against the wall as in the above exercise, begin with the left foot and take three forward steps without changing the position of the head, and, of course, keeping shoulders erect. Then, still holding the same position, take three backward steps to the wall. Repeat ten times. Then reverse the action by beginning with the right foot. As you repeat this exercise gradually increase the number of steps you take until you can keep your body erect at all times when walking.

Balancing a book on the head while walking is an old favorite with the experts who teach perfect posture. Of course anything that is reasonably unbreakable can be used, as long as it is not difficult to keep on top of the head. If you use a book it should be of medium or standard size and should be placed squarely on the head. It is

(Turn to page 70)

The Cleaning Squad

Well chosen brushes and mops will aid the housewife with her cleaning tasks.

by MARION R. McKEE

WITH an army of well chosen brushes and mops by her side the modern homemaker is fully equipped to wage war against all forms of dust and dirt. Hosts of these helpers are arrayed in the stores, coming in every conceivable shape and form to seek out the most elusive bits of grime hiding in hard-to-get-at places. Every day one or more of these aides earns its keep in the broom closet by keeping things spic and span.

There are certain important details to be considered in buying the brushes for your home. The bristles should be firmly attached or anchored in place so they will not become easily loosened. There is nothing more annoying or more wasteful than a "prematurely bald" brush. Smooth, non-absorbent handles which are firmly attached to the brush give the best service. The handles should be long enough to accomplish the work and yet not be awkward to handle. Select a good brand of brushes made by a reliable manufacturer for they will give you long service backed by a good name.

Brushes are very fussy about the type of work they do, and should be bought and used for their particular work only. Remember that a brush which fits the job will save you time and effort in cleaning. This does not necessarily mean you have to have a great number of brushes in your possession since brushes may serve double duty for jobs which are reasonably similar to the one for which the brush was designed.

An important brush in your household will be the one used to clean upholstered chairs and other furniture which are constantly gathering dust and lint. A fairly stiff bristled brush with or without a handle is excellent for this purpose. This brush will easily clean the cushions, arms, and sides of chairs and chesterfields and get in all the nooks and crannies to remove dirt, dust, and any possible moth eggs. A hint to help the homemaker cleaning furniture is to spread dampened newspaper around the object. This will catch the dust and is easily disposed of after the task is complete.

ANOTHER brush which serves many useful cleaning purposes is the long-handled radiator brush. Besides cleaning radiators this circular type of brush with the bristles running all around serves by cleaning in other narrow spaces. Bed springs, under pianos and stoves, backs of large pictures and other difficult spots are forced to give up their dirt when attacked by this brush. When cleaning radiators and bed springs it is once again a help to spread dampened newspapers underneath to catch the dust.

You will need a brush with medium stiff bristles to help keep the draperies clean. One similar to that used in the illustration is excellent since the long handle and wide circular bristles make it easy to clean the drapes from top to bottom. Spread out the draperies over the curtain rod to remove folds then start at the top and brush down



A long-handled brush is excellent for brushing draperies, walls and ceiling.

with light, even strokes. Better start this job before the rest of the room is cleaned since it is hard not to scatter the dust.

A long-handled brush for cleaning walls and even ceilings is a blessing to the homemaker. This willing worker is made of soft hair so it will not only remove surface dirt but will penetrate into the small crevices on the paper or wood without scratching. It should be light enough in weight to prevent your arms from becoming too tired. These brushes are not in such big demand as some others so you may have to shop around before you can find one.

A small circular brush with a long handle is a useful helper in many instances. Coffee and tea pot spouts and many other small circular places like the tube in the coffee percolator are cleaned with this brush. The drain of the ice box may be kept clear with a stiff brush of this design.

Brushes used in water such as floor scrub brushes, vegetable brushes and toilet bowl brushes should be made of non-absorbent stiff bristles which will dry quickly with a minimum of dripping. When these brushes are drying hang them away from the floor so the bristles will dry straight.

To keep your linoleum and painted floors spic and span from loose dirt, dust and crumbs a good broom is an essential helper. You will use one every day in the kitchen at least. It pays to buy a good sturdily constructed broom with firmly stitched bristles. The sweeping end should be thickly bristled and straight across to catch all

the dirt particles from the floor. Always hang a broom by a loop on the handle or place it upside down on the handle so the bristles will not be bent or broken from resting on the floor.

Mops, which are first cousins to brushes, are also an essential part of a well run household. There are two types of mops; one is the wet mop and one is the dry mop. When you are buying a mop for scrubbing floors select one which is made of durable, small size, hard-twisted, absorbent rope of a length which will not needlessly slop the water around. The best mops are also light in weight, flat enough to get into corners and under surfaces, and made so they may be easily washed and dried.

A new type of mop now available is made of cellulose sponge and it comes in various sizes suitable to scrubbing floors, cleaning bath tubs, or other places where a mop or cleaning cloth is needed. The handle of this mop is detachable and allows you to clean the sponge easily without a clumsy handle getting in the way. While it is dry the sponge is hard, but when wet it is soft and gathers up every particle of dirt. To clean floors, woodwork, linoleum or any surface the sponge is first wet thoroughly, then all surplus water is squeezed out leaving the sponge damp and ready for use. Carpets, rugs and windows and countless other things may be cleaned by this versatile mop, and even floors may be waxed with its help. Detailed instructions come with these sponges and the homemaker will find them a valuable addition to her cleaning equipment.

THE dusting and polishing of floors is done by dry mops. These have been produced in all sorts of sizes and shapes and are usually treated with an oil or chemical which makes them dustless and absorbent. "Dustless" mops quickly pick up the dust from the floor and hold it until the mop is taken outside and shaken.

To test a dry mop before buying see that it lies flat on the floor so a little pressure on the handle will make it both clean and polish at the same time. It should be of a shape that will fit into corners and a size to clean the floors rapidly. The string of this type of mop should stand out separately when it is shaken instead of matting together. These mops will require a cleaning themselves every so often and this is best done by washing in lukewarm water with a mild suds, wringing carefully, and hanging them from the clothes line outside to dry.

You will need a handy closet for storing the household brushes and mops while they are not in use, and usually the kitchen or near the kitchen is the favored spot. Have a shelf built in this cupboard to be used for storing cleaning preparations and dusters. Hooks around the sides of the cupboard on which to hang the brushes complete the storage space. Screw eyes or loops are easily placed on the end of handles of brushes so they may be hung up when not in use.

Makes in mere Minutes!



PINEAPPLE BANANA DESSERT

- 1 pkg. Royal Strawberry Gelatin
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 cup canned pineapple juice
- 1 banana, sliced

Dissolve Royal in hot water. Add pineapple juice. Chill. When slightly thickened, fold in banana. Turn into individual molds. Chill until firm. Unmold and serve with whipped cream. Serves 4.

Strawberries — red, ripe, and juicy — that's what this grand new jelly brings to mind!

Serve Royal Gelatin Desserts plain, mix them with fruit, top them with cream, make them into fancier desserts . . . their sparkling colors, their world famous flavors, will have you saying, "I've never had jelly so delicious before!" Try them all — strawberry, raspberry, cherry, orange and lemon.

Royal desserts



For Bad Winter Cough, Mix This Syrup Yourself

Saves Good Money! No Cooking!


If you want a splendid cough medicine, mix it at home. It costs very little, yet the way it takes hold of distressing coughs, giving quick relief, is astonishing. Any druggist can supply you with a 2½ ounce bottle of Pinex. Pour this into a 16-oz bottle, and fill up with granulated sugar syrup to make 16 ounces. To make syrup, use 2 cups of sugar and one cup of water and stir a few moments until dissolved. No cooking needed. (Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup.) It's no trouble at all and gives you four times as much cough medicine for your money—a real family supply. Keeps perfectly and tastes fine. It is surprising how quickly this loosens the phlegm, soothes the irritated membranes, and helps clear the air passages. This 3-fold action explains why it relieves an annoying cough in a hurry. Pinex is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, a very reliable soothing agent for winter coughs. Money refunded if it does not please you in every way.

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Keep "Vaseline" Petroleum Jelly handy, too, for cuts, bruises, burns and 101 other home uses.

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Vaseline

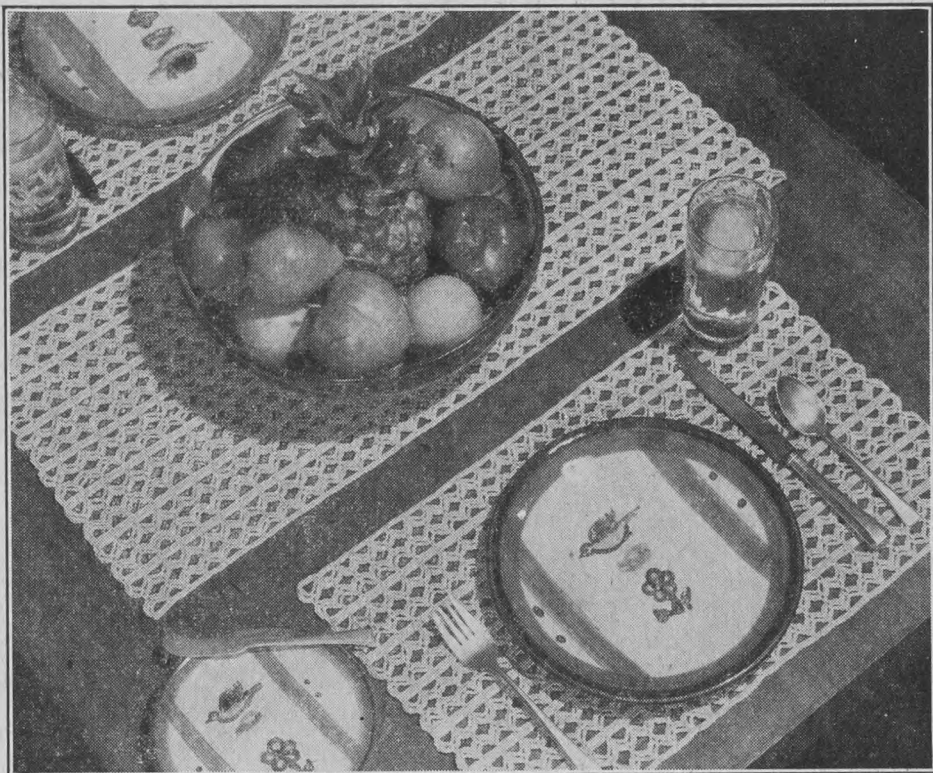
TRADE MARK
PETROLEUM JELLY

AT ANY DRUGGIST; OR FROM YOUR MAIL ORDER HOUSE

Easy To Work

Needlework ideas for the shut-in months of winter.

by ANNA DE BELLE



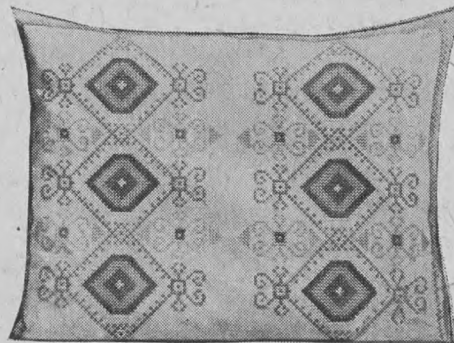
No. C-339.

Mexican Motif Luncheon Set

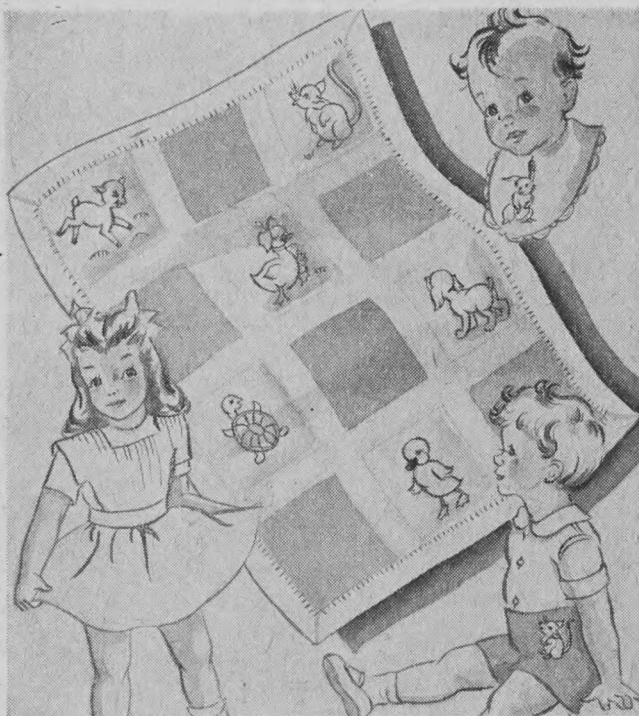
While it doesn't show distinctly in the photograph, this pretty set is actually made in two colors. The straight stripes are done in one shade and the zig-zag stripes in another. With the popular plain peasant-type china this is an artistic and effective combination. Pattern is No. C-339, price 20 cents.

Cross-stitch Pillow

The pillow measures about 18x24 inches and is stamped on nice-quality cream Irish linen. It includes front and back and instructions for placing the colors. Threads are 40 cents and may be ordered with any of the following colors predominating—blue, green, maroon or red. Please state preference. Cushion cover is No. 832, price \$1.75.



No. 832.



Motifs for Moppets

Hot Iron Transfers—
No. T-143.

Barnyard animals and birds and some that never see a barnyard at all are the motifs our artists used for this well-assorted pattern of embroidery designs to use on a coverlet or on play suits. Ask for Transfer Pattern No. T-143.

February "Good Ideas" Needlework bulletin is ready. Contains complete instructions for making one needlework design, in-

formation about stitches, ideas and patterns. One copy, free of charge, is included in each order for stamped needlework or needlework patterns. Single copy 5 cents, postage 1 cent. For 50 cents, you may have bulletin mailed to you each month for a year. To order needlework or bulletins, write to The Country Guide Needlework, Winnipeg.



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Care of Shoes

Tips on proper fitting and how to get the best out of the shoes you have.

by LOUISE PRICE BELL

IF you are fortunate enough to have some good shoes in your closet, you are mighty lucky. For everyone—including the shoe manufacturers themselves—bemoan the fact that shoes just aren't what they used to be. Thus it behooves every one of us to give our shoes the best possible care.

It is not economy to buy cheap shoes. Although they often look all right in the shop, these inferiors won't hold up or keep their shape, because they haven't the materials or workmanship involved that will permit of long life and hard wear. Always buy shoes of a reputable make, with a well-established name and reputation. The "best is always the cheapest" in the end.

Make sure that the shoes fit perfectly. Never let a loquacious salesman shoehorn you into a pair of oxfords or pumps because they look smart on your feet, or because his sales-quota is low. Make sure that the shoes feel right and are your proper size, before you leave the shop. You will then be assured of a maximum amount of comfortable and pleasant wear from them. An intelligent salesman who understands his business can soon tell the type and style and size that you should wear, is best suited to your foot. Correct fitting does much toward maintaining shape and appearance; incorrect fitting places undue strain upon certain parts of the shoe, causes weakening and very often unsightly cracks and bulges.

It is true economy to own several pairs of shoes of each type so that you can rotate in wearing them, giving the others a rest while you wear one pair. The initial investment seems large, but once you make it you'll find it an economy measure because of the extra wear you will get from your brogans! Perspiration is harmful to leather and by alternating or rotating footwear each pair has time to thoroughly dry. Specialists state that two pairs of shoes wear two-and-a-half times as long as one pair if this turn-about system is used. So figure it out for yourself!

Always use a shoehorn when putting on footwear. It prevents a breaking-down of shoe counters, helps preserve the shape of the shoe as a

whole. And the neat, snug topline which is so important to fit and appearance will remain that way. A folded paper will act as a temporary shoehorn if you can't find a real one. No matter how much of a hurry you are in, always use one or the other.

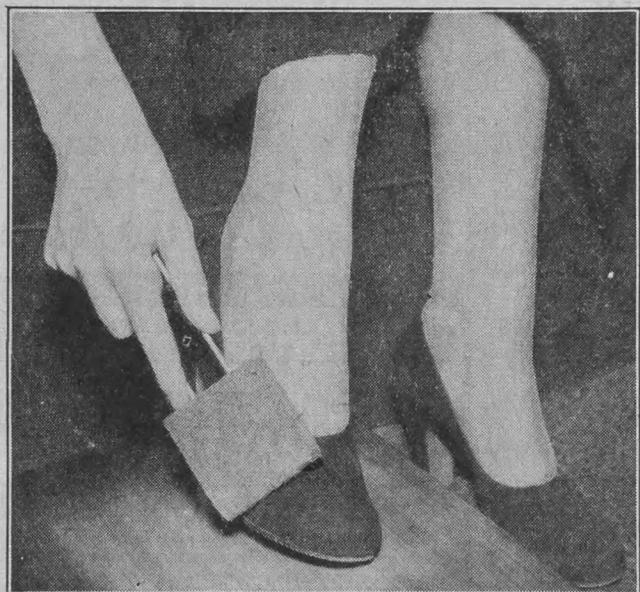
Keep your shoes polished. Besides the well-groomed look this gives, most good polishes (and you should use no other kind) contain oil and wax that are nourishing to leather and will prevent stains from penetrating into the pores of the material. That is why many people get a "shine" before even wearing new shoes; the polish gives them a protective coating from the start. Not a bad idea.

Remove wet or damp shoes as soon as possible. Leather wears out quicker when frequently wet, and dampness is a shape-thief. After removing damp shoes, place shoe-trees inside, then turn shoes on their sides so that air will circulate freely. Then place away from any source of heat. Damp shoes should dry slowly, at room temperature, and when thoroughly dry should be given a polishing to supply any oils that have dried out. Shoemen have long given calf and other smooth leathers an occasional cleaning with saddle soap; now this is being done more and more by individuals in their own homes. The soap is inexpensive, and the home-method is as good as the professional one. Use a small, damp sponge, work up a healthy lather, then apply. Rinse the sponge, wipe the leather, let the shoes dry well. Then apply polish and you'll be delighted with the results.

ALWAYS put shoe-trees in your shoes the minute you remove them from your feet. Even though you think that the shoes are perfectly dry, there is a moisture present in any shoe after it has been worn, and if not "shoe-treed," the shoe will gradually lose shape. Properly constructed shoe-trees of the correct size will actually pay for themselves in longer lives of shoes.

Watch for worn places, run-down heels, broken stitchings, and once discovered waste no time in taking to a repair man. A run-over heel throws undue strain upon certain portions of the vamp, and thus twists the shoe out of shape. If neglected the shoe can not be brought back to its original shape and smart, well-proportioned lines. And run-over heels are not the mark of a well-groomed person! A worn-thin sole permits of moisture seepage; this quickly deteriorates insoles and linings.

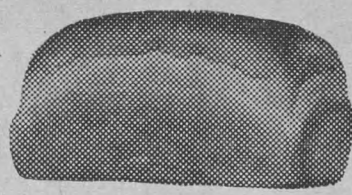
Remember that your shoes are just as good as the care you give them and whether they are men's or women's, lively young people's or racing children's, the same general rules regarding care apply.



Use a spongy brush to bring up the nap of suede.



Bread like this?



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HERE'S HOW

to do it with Best Hi-Do Yeast!

1 pkg Hi-Do Yeast	4 3/4 cups luke-warm water
2 tbspn melted lard	3 tbspn sugar
12 cups sifted flour	1 tspn salt

Dissolve 1 tspn sugar in 3/4 cup water. Add 1 pkg Hi-Do. Let stand 15 min. Beat together lard, sugar, salt, 6 cups flour, remaining water until smooth. Stir yeast; add to batter. Beat slightly. Add remaining flour. Mix smooth. Place in greased bowl in warm place to rise to double bulk. Punch down. Let rise again 15 min. Cut and mould into loaves to half-fill greased pans. Cover. Let rise 1 hr. or to double bulk. Bake 3/4 to 1 hr. Can substitute milk for water, butter for lard. Use 2 pkg. Hi-Do for quicker results.

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VEL WASHES LIKE MAGIC

CLEANS SEPARATORS IN TWO MINUTES



CLEANS SEPARATORS IN TWO MINUTES



VEL WASHES PERFECTLY IN HARD WATER



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WASHES WOOLENS SOFTER, FLUFFIER

VEL washes cleaner, faster even in hard cool water. VEL flushes milking equipment clean of milk fat and milk slime. Almost no brushing needed! Send for free instructions on the new VEL-ocity method of cleaning.

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VEL users say:

"Better than any soap or cleaner I have ever used for milking equipment".

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Skin Deep

Continued from page 66

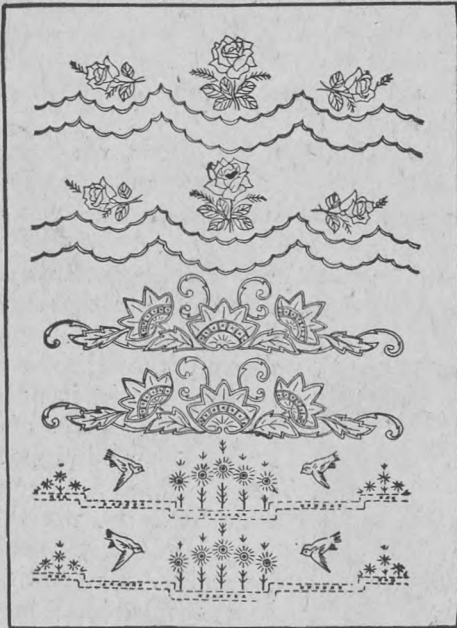
a matter of walking smoothly and keeping the action in the hips as you bend your ankles and knees and step ahead. If the book will not remain on the head it means that the carriage is jerky. Perhaps walking to music will make the practice steps more rhythmic.

There is a vast difference between sitting down gracefully and simply falling into a chair. In order to sit down correctly, then to sit properly, one must have absolute control of the body. As one turns around to sit down, one unconsciously takes possession of the body. Then the hips and knees act together as the body is lowered to the chair. Then as soon as one is seated the feet are moved closer to the chair. The shoulders should never be permitted to slump. If and when the abdomen is drawn in, the shoulders could not possibly droop. Actually, the position of the whole upper body depends upon holding in the abdomen. Pretending that one is wearing a high collar is an aid in keeping the chin up. Stretch the body and the neck to their full height as you tilt your chin upward. Whether you are tall or short, underweight or overweight, you can look important when sitting . . . if you sit correctly.

It takes more than perfect features to make a beautiful individual. It is the combination of well balanced features, to be sure, plus good complexion of skin and color of hair, faultless figure, posture, and carriage, a pleasant voice and perfect enunciation that complete the individual picture of loveliness. Properly applied makeup and a pretty coiffure are important, but even these will be lost if one carries herself awkwardly, sits sloppily, or speaks indistinctly and in a monotonous voice. You will look important and command attention when you speak if you make today's suggestions a part of your personality.

Needlework

by ANNA DE BELLE



Design No. T-156

Now that pillow-ticking and towel-ing are finding their way back into the shops, you'll find these pretty designs delightful pick-up work. Nice in white or colors. Another pretty idea is to combine just two colors—such as pink and white, blue and white. Sheet of transfers is No. T-156. Price 15 cents. Send order to Country Guide Needlework Dept., Winnipeg, Man.

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'Vaseline' — it is your
guarantee of the highest quality
petroleum jelly; safe because
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Sewing For February

*Hollywood
Patterns.*



No. 267—Full flare coat, in two lengths, fingertip or mid-calf, slotted or patch pockets, choice of neckline. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 or 20 years, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 or 40 inches bust. Size 16 (34 bust) for full length requires 4½ yards 54-inch fabric. Price 25 cents.

No. 368—Contoured bodice dress with tucks, choice of neckline, flared hemline. Sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years. Size 15 (33 bust) 3½ yards 39-inch fabric. Price 25 cents.

No. 218—Gibson girl blouse with ruffle for new feminine look, plain tailored version (both blouses in one pattern). Sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years. Size 15, 2½ yards 39-inch fabric. Price 25 cents.

No. 216—Casual dress with tailored tucking, inset vestee, fine hipline tucks to release low fullness in skirt. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years, 30, 32, 34, 36 and 38 inches bust. Size 16 requires 3½ yards 39-inch fabric. Price 20 cents.

No. 271—Basic teen frock with circular flared skirt, may have contrasting Peter Pan collar and cuffs or bracelet length sleeves. Sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years. Size 15, 3½ yards 35-inch fabric. Price 25 cents.

No. 1377—Boy's pyjamas—all-of-a-piece makes them free and easy to move about in. Tailored as a young man desires. Sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 8, 2½ yards 35-inch fabric for long-sleeved pyjamas. Price 25 cents.

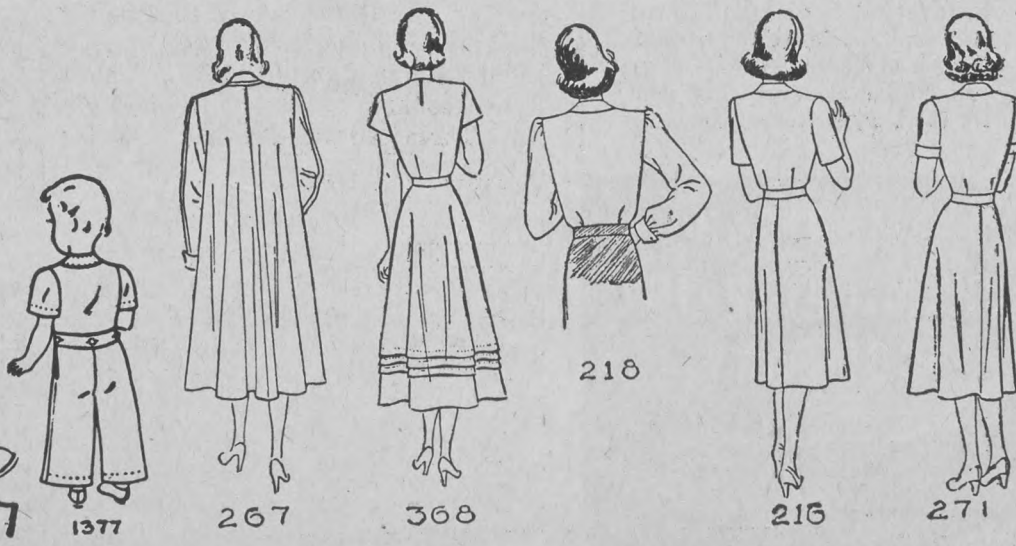
No. 905—Jodhpurs, jacket and cap gives freedom to outdoor tot and makes for warmth. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Size 3 requires 1½ yards 54-inch fabric, 2½ yards 35-inch lining. Price 25 cents.

Be sure to state correct size and number of pattern wanted.

Note price of each pattern.

Write name and address clearly.

Address orders to The Country Guide Patterns, Winnipeg, Man.



2,4-D NEWS Worth Reading



**NOT JUST
CANADIAN**

FARMERS but
Farmers of 45
different countries

**USE
WEEDONE
2,4-D PRODUCTS**
TRADE MARK

The world's foremost and original
Weed Killers

• In its search for a safe and sure weed killer which it could recommend with confidence to Western Farmers, U.G.G. checked the claims and the performance of the many different 2,4-D compounds advertised.

**WEEDONE CONCENTRATE 48
and
WEEDAR 64**

were finally selected as being
(1) by every practical test the most satisfactory 2,4-D weed killer.
(2) The most economical to use, based upon their efficient performance.

AS A FARMER-OWNED COMPANY U.G.G. is vitally interested in **successful results** and, for this reason, recommends the use of tried and tested Weedone 2,4-D Products.

PLAY SAFE! BE SURE!

book your order now for
**WEEDONE CONCENTRATE 48
and WEEDAR 64**

At your local U.G.G. Elevator.

**UNITED GRAIN GROWERS
LIMITED**

WINNIPEG CALGARY EDMONTON
SASKATOON

**BIGGER
YIELDS**

WITH

**WEEDONE
2,4-D PRODUCTS**
TRADE MARK

**LET'S TALK
CENTS**

Last year *again*, Canadian farmers made cents . . . dollars and cents . . . by spraying wheat and small grains with Weedone 2,4-D Products.

GOOD CROPS were increased in value because Weedone 2,4-D Products made them even cleaner, and thus cut down dockage.

BAD CROPS — stands that formerly would not have been worth cutting—were made *harvestable* by the use of these great weedkillers.

This year, 2,4-D spraying and Weedone 2,4-D Products will be used as a routine farming operation by more and more progressive, profit-minded farmers.

**TWO FINE
WEEDKILLERS,
CONTAINING
THE MOST 2,4-D
AT THE PRICE**

WEEDONE CONCENTRATE 48

The original ethyl ester form of 2,4-D, containing 3.6 lbs. 2,4-D acid equivalent per gallon.

WEEDAR 64

The liquid alkanolamine salt of 2,4-D, containing 4.8 lbs. 2,4-D acid equivalent per gallon.

DEALERS. Inquiries are invited from dealers who will distribute Weedone 2,4-D Products in their territory. In Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta address inquiries to the nearest branch of United Grain Growers. Make arrangements *now* for the busy season to come.

**AMERICAN
CHEMICAL PAINT
COMPANY**

Agricultural Chemicals
Division

WINDSOR, ONTARIO

New Horizons

Continued from page 7

largely exported, while coarse grains are largely consumed in Canada. Our responsibility with regard to wheat is clear, but as for coarse grains, we must have enabling legislation from the provinces to fortify any action we may take. We will, therefore, extend the authority of the Wheat Board to the marketing of coarse grains, but will not make the authority operative until (1), the provinces clarify our right to do so, and (2), the farmers (the C.F.A.) give us a formula by which we can satisfy both the buyer and seller (grain producer and livestock feeder)."

Here was a pretty kettle of fish, and the governments of Manitoba and Alberta didn't want any of it. Was this feed grain going to be sold in the interests of the people of their provinces, the producers, or did the Dominion Government intend to use coarse grains as a means of making the western grain growers subsidize the people of eastern Canada as they had done in the case of wheat? No legislation until this important point was cleared up!

THE Canadian Federation of Agriculture also found itself on the spot: Would they undertake to provide the suggested formula and relieve the Dominion of its responsibilities, and if so, where should dollars for producers stop and stability for the livestock industry take over? Should a board selling the producers' feed grains sell for as much as the market would give, or would it be all right for coarse grains also to be used as a tool of government domestic price policy and sold at dictated price levels? J. Jones' resolution was caught up in a cyclone.

Some farm organizations, among the most urgent of which was the United Grain Growers Ltd., demanded a board operating solely in the interests of the producers and not required to maintain a precarious balance between government favor, producer approval, and purchaser appreciation. Others seemed to want Wheat Board marketing so badly that they were not particular about attaching any conditions.

Those who were most urgent felt that selling wheat is the really big job of the Wheat Board; that if it is assigned the additional task of selling coarse grains and its operations in this field made subject to any form of government directive as to the prices to be charged eastern feeders, for example, the result would inevitably be dissatisfaction among farmers and the eventual undermining of their confidence in the Wheat Board. It would be foolish to risk the ruin of the Wheat Board for the sake of getting coarse grains marketed through it, when the same objective could be achieved in another way. Those concerned primarily with livestock feeding believed they were entitled to some protection from extreme price fluctuations in feed grains, and they pointed to the importance of livestock production and the need for stable feed prices in the livestock industry, as valid arguments favoring some co-operation from grain producers.

The various points of view were finally harmonized at Saskatoon. J. Jones' innocent little resolution finally emerged stripped of its innocence and re-clothed in practical workaday words

which stated plainly that to be satisfactory, coarse grains must be marketed, either for export or for the domestic market, in the interests of the producer and at the best available prices; that coarse grains should not be used by the Dominion Government to further its domestic policy; and that if, from time to time, the livestock industry should require some special consideration, the Wheat Board should not be required to bear any part of the responsibility for any action involving coarse grains which the government might deem advisable at the time.

Then only was C.F.A. policy finally established, the complete statement of which is too long for inclusion here. First try-out was at Regina a few days later, when farm organizations met representatives of the three prairie governments. (Unfortunately, press-day overtook us before this meeting).

ALL the world and his brother now knows of the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada on the margarine question. For over 60 years this edible product, a substitute for butter as a spread for bread, had been prohibited import into, and manufacture in Canada, except for a short period during World War I. As matters stand now, the Supreme Court of Canada has declared that the control of manufacture lies with the provinces and not with the Dominion. Margarine is now being sold in some Canadian cities. The traditional attitude of the dairying industry has been bitter and unflagging opposition to the butter substitute. In the United States, where for many years margarine has been legalized by taxation, it has apparently cut the sale of butter by about 25 per cent. Faced with the problem of what to do, the Dairy Farmers of Canada, meeting in Edmonton the week prior to the C.F.A. annual meeting, incorporated in their statement of policy (endorsed by the C.F.A.), a decision to call on the Dominion Government to carry an appeal to the Privy Council, the highest court in the Commonwealth. Pending a favorable decision from the Privy Council, dairymen (and the C.F.A.) want margarine made and sold in such color (without preservative), as will definitely distinguish it from butter.

Unfortunately, as it turned out, the government announced its intention to abolish all appeals to the Privy Council, on the very day that the policy statement of the Dairy Farmers of Canada was endorsed by the C.F.A. The Dairy Farmers, however, had also considered what action they would take in the event of an unfavorable decision from the Privy Council. They will now, presumably, seek such concessions, redress and consideration as may be available. Since the Supreme Court decision was not unanimous and the matter is still pending, an appeal to the Privy Council would still seem possible.

AN event which may or may not possess unusual significance, occurred in November, when the C.F.A. added an economist to its staff, in the person of Dr. E. C. Hope, formerly professor of farm management at the University of Saskatchewan.

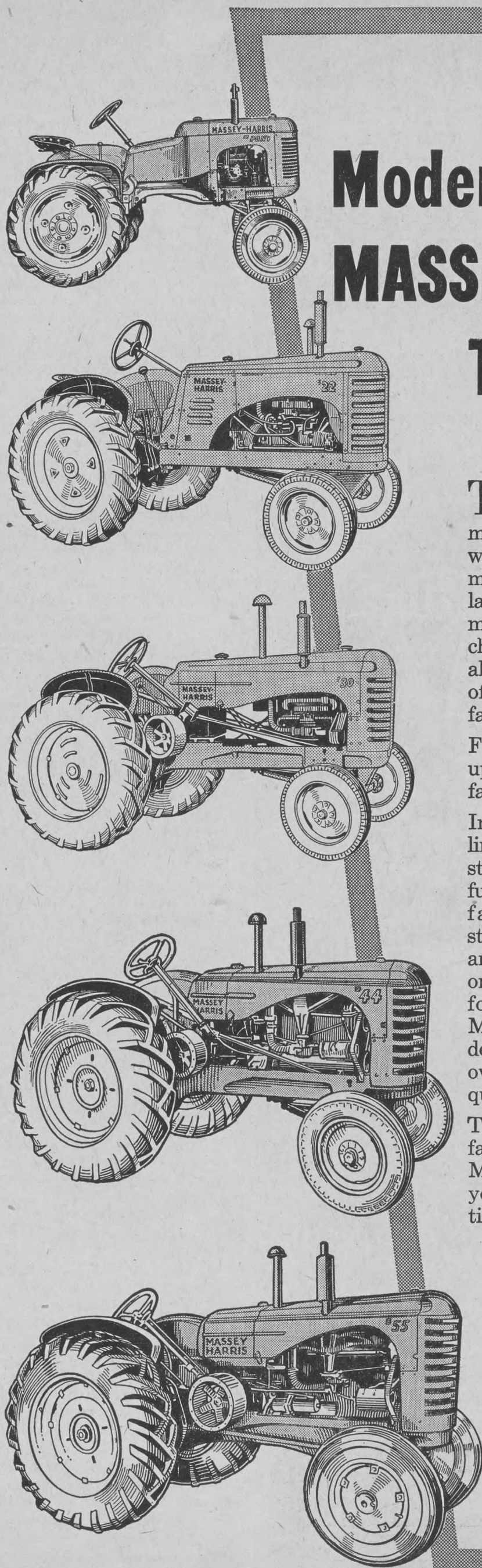
Dr. Hope, following the address of President H. H. Hannam, in which attention was called to the fact that farm prices have already begun to

recede from the high reached in late summer of 1948, suggested that the time was opportune for the C.F.A. to begin definite study of the question of floor prices. His own opportunity to study the matter since joining the C.F.A. had been all too brief, but he was able to offer some material in support of floor prices for agriculture; and felt that while there is already a \$200,000,000 fund provided by the Agricultural Prices Support Act, no formula for its use had been presented or accepted. He felt that the formula basis would prove most desirable in the long run; and had made preliminary studies leading to a tentative formula (adapted from the parity formula used in the United States), whereby a parity price for Canada was achieved by averaging the price of any product, say wheat, for the ten-year period 1930-39, adjusting it with the average price of all farm prices for the same period, and bringing it to "parity" by further adjustment based on increased costs of the things farmers buy since the base period. His starting point was the period 1925-29, which he showed by charts was the only five-year period available when farm prices and farmers' costs were fairly in equilibrium.

Dr. Hope was also at some pains to show that so-called surpluses of farm products are the result rather of unequal employment in industry than of appreciable changes in work done on farms. Farm work is very uniform from year to year and any increase or decrease of effort by farmers affects total output much less than do climatic influences, the proportion being of the order of one to ten. This fact meant that farm production is steady, not even receding appreciably in times of depression, when the same amount of food continues to be produced, whereas industry exhibits great fluctuations in employment and production, and, therefore, in the development of consumer purchasing power. His argument was that depressions are not created by farmers, but rather by the non-agricultural segments in the national economy; and farmers should therefore be protected against them by floor prices fixed at a high enough level to return cash costs of production and cash living costs. More will probably be heard of this.

THE president's address covered a wide field. Meaty and thought-provoking, it emphasized the doubt and uncertainty confronting agriculture, and the importance of international co-operation through FAO and IFAP (the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, which is to meet in Canada for the first time, in June, at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph). He stressed the current importance of Marshall Plan funds, the disappointment presently associated with the British food contracts, and the favorable consumer position in relation to the wage-food ratio now existing.

Of many subjects discussed by the convention, that of soil and water conservation and land use seemed to be received with unusual favor. Dr. R. D. Sinclair, dean of agriculture at the University of Alberta and president of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, presented a proposed national soil conservation policy recently developed by the Institute.



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Ethics

Continued from page 14

say, "At that range it's butchery."
I have read considerable about men hunting tigers from a very high seat in a tree. It didn't seem so sporting to me. But how can a hunter living in B.C. know how a hunter in Malaya feels? As I have said before, I don't approve of spring grizzly hunting when a slide is baited with a dead horse, yet some good sportsmen find it satisfactory and sporting. I have never felt bad, myself, about shooting a bear that has come to clear up the remains of caribou I've shot. Yet for some reason, sitting, watching that spread of apples under those lonely trees, in the midst of the grizzlies' home, made me feel very ungentlemanly.

I ARGUED with myself, I admit. I assured myself that hunting any North American animal with a rifle is unsporting; that a bow and arrows are the only weapons that truly leave a man's conscience clear. But it was no use. If a bear had ambled into that orchard I could no more have shot him than I could have killed a Jersey bull in a corral and claimed his horns for a trophy. So I got up and walked out of there.

I circled the place twice, widening a hundred yards each time. There were game trails leading in, and in a muddy place I found tracks of a bear. I also found that the brush was very thick a short distance from the orchard. The country steepened, too, and got rough and unpleasant with snow, brush, and down timber. I bolted a couple of deer and nearly fell over a porcupine but that was all I saw except a fool hen which I threw my knife into as I needed something for lunch.

Back in camp I made soup of the grouse, meanwhile dwelling upon Apprehension Number One—that the snow would chase me out before I was ready, for the morning's blue sky had given way to a dismal grey that held snow, if I knew the mountain signs.

"You gotta do something!" I told myself. "And fast. This afternoon in fact, or you'll be wet tailing out of here without a bear, butt-end deep in snow, cussing your ethics with every step!"

It was then that I got a bright idea. While it did not suit me to sit by the apples and sort of bush-whack an unsuspecting bear, I decided I wouldn't feel so bad if the bear forced himself upon me. So I slurped down the souped grouse, put on an extra pair of socks and another shirt for warmth, took a candle stub or two in my pocket, and went back to the orchard.

As soon as I came in sight of the place I saw there were visitors. Four deer were wandering about like cows—three does and a nice four-points-to-the-side buck, fat as a barrel. They looked at me with curiosity until I was within 50 feet. Then they trotted away to the edge of the surrounding brush, circled until they got my wind, then scared and vanished, but remained close by, blowing the alarm and acting very loath to go away.

"With that racket no bear can claim he was unsuspecting," I told myself as I got set to wait, sitting comfortably,

plumb in the middle of the place, my back against the big boulder, my rifle across my knees, binoculars beside me.

It was by now late afternoon, the time when a solemn and rather depressing atmosphere creeps into mountain valleys. A coldness comes and within it a bit of melancholy, especially when the sky is low and lead colored. It has the effect of making you less alert and more thoughtful of things long past. So I sat huddled and let my mind drift into speculation about the origin of the lonely, forgotten orchard. Occasionally an apple dropped with a startling thump. That was the only sound.

I turned my head slowly every once in a while to look behind and to the right, just in case something came silently to the grassy flat. Half an hour passed slowly and the place remained deserted.

Then, as silently as a squirrel running on moss, a big black bear came out of the bush and, without a sideways glance, loafed into the open. He had a big brown muzzle and a cocksure air about him as he nosed among the windfall apples for a few minutes. I watched him putter about. When he was within a hundred feet of me he found a tree he liked and tried to clamber into it, but he was too heavy, a branch broke and he came down amid a shower of apples that was startlingly loud in that place.

For a few minutes he crunched and slopped happily, making a good deal of noise about it. Then he stopped suddenly. The silence was so noticeable I felt a mild tension. The bear had raised its head and was looking right and left, slowly, the rest of his body very still.

"He's got my wind," I guessed and waited, expecting him to bolt. But he acted queerly. Instead of letting out a startled grunt and scooting away from there, he slowly turned and came towards me, occasionally looking to right and left apprehensively.

I MOVED my rifle into my knees so the muzzle was facing him but otherwise I stayed put. I did not want any black bear. He passed where I was sitting on the left by no more than 15 feet and by the time he reached the edge of the open he was loping.

What had made him so nervous? It wasn't my scent, I was fairly sure. I settled again, noticing how the dusk had begun to creep up. And with it had come more tension. I listened but there was no sound.

Then, as is often the way at dusk, a mild breeze came and rustled the few leaves on the apple trees. I found myself on edge waiting for the expected "plop-biff" of falling fruit. Almost at once an apple fell close beside me, making me jump. Then apples began dropping all around.

"If a grizzly is coming he had better do it soon," I told myself, "or it will be too dark to see my sights!"

Almost at once I heard a sound. A long drawn out "Foo-oo-oof!" It came from the edge of the opening, where in the fast growing dusk the wall of bush looked solid, making it hard to distinguish anything against it. For that reason the bear was well out of the trees, half way across the open towards me before I really saw him. Sixty or seventy feet is too close to a grizzly when he is coming straight at

you in the half dusk. I got up in a hurry.

The bear stopped. We looked at each other for quite a few seconds. He was a good-sized grizzly of a medium brown color with a good showing of light tipped hairs on the hump and shoulders. A very nice specimen, one that was good enough for any man's trophy! Not that hunters are choosy about grizzlies—any adult is a prize. I could have nailed him right then and there with one shot, but I didn't forget my feeling of earlier in the day—that I was, in a way, sitting over a bait, even if it was only a spread of windfall apples.

So I just stood, half ready, rifle half raised, waiting. My feelings were mixed. Here was what I had come many a weary mile to get. I knew that as soon as the bear turned, bolted, and was out of sight, I would curse myself for not taking him. Too late I would junk ethics and call myself a fool. Yet I didn't shoot.

Now comes the time for a slight change from the usual method of recording a grizzly bear mix-up. Ordinarily the events are put down from one point of view—the hunter's. That is about the only way it can be done, usually. But this time I feel conditions will warrant me switching sides for a few moments.

IT was mid-afternoon when the grizzly left his bed in the alder tangle and came into the open lane between the alders and the heavy strip of balsams that ran from the creek to half way up the mountain. He sniffed among the half buried boulders and ripped up about a yard of a mountain carrot patch. But he was dissatisfied with foraging for small things. He wanted bulk so he turned down the valley, through the alternating strips of open grass and spruce thickets towards the place of the apples.

He stopped twice on the way and sniffed suspiciously, for a faint scent came to him. It was something he did not know. He had never seen a man in his life. The scent had the effect of making his hump hairs rise and gave him a feeling of mixed distrust and aggressiveness.

Approaching the place of the apples, he picked up another scent—a familiar one—one that laid his ears back and quickened his lumbering walk. It was the smell of the black bear, the one that earlier had stolen most of the caribou carcass the grizzly had found. It was that same bear that he had chased from the place of the apples twice before. Petulantly the grizzly rumbled a low growl and lengthened his stride, his bunching and slackening muscles making his hide seem to roll as he walked.

AT the edge of the orchard the grizzly stopped, undecided, for a sudden breath of breeze had come, moving at right angles from the more

constant air draught that in the evenings was usually down hill and down the valley. This new, vagrant breeze upset the grizzly's course. He had meant to come at the orchard from down wind so as not to warn the black bear. Then, with a bellow and a rush, charge upon him and finish him off.

There is no love lost between grizzlies and black bears. But the new twisting breeze made everything uncertain. The black bear might or might not have got his scent. The grizzly made no circling for wind advantage. He merely stood at the edge of the place of apples, peering short-sightedly and listening. He heard nothing, not even the welcome plop-bump of falling fruit. He listened for a full minute. Then with the coming of a new scuttling breeze, the apples began to drop all over the orchard. The grizzly was hungry. He forgot the black bear. He headed straight among the trees to the centre where he knew the biggest tree and the best fruit lay on the ground.

He was half way across when he saw a dark object rise from the ground at the base of the tree. It was the black bear, his enemy, unaware of his presence, apparently about to climb the tree.

The grizzly stopped for a moment before he rushed full tilt at the black bear. There was a vague something that puzzled him, for the black object at the tree made no sound; there was no tearing of claws into bark, no grunting of effort, no cascade of apples as the tree shook. That meant, to the grizzly, that his enemy was not about to climb the tree, but that he was standing up, facing him, either afraid or defiant. It filled the grizzly with rage. He laid his ears back and with startling speed he came in a bounding run towards that black figure.

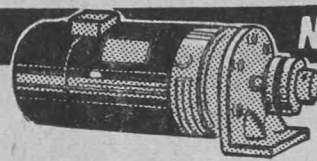
THE bear came too fast for me! Too startlingly fast! There should have been a bellow, a growl, an angry moan to get me ready. I had not even got the safety leaf of my rifle turned over to "Fire." But I had my thumb against it. I jabbed it over as the gun came up and I fired before the butt was at my shoulder.

The bullet got the bear in the chest. He turned a sideways somersault as a front leg gave way and he landed in a roaring sprawl right in front of me. The sod flew in chunks and the air seemed full of earth and claws and roars. I fired two shots into the tangle, to sort of anchor him. Then I took time enough with the next one to put it into his neck for a proper finish. He reared half up, swung a mighty paw around, then fell backwards.

By the time I had examined him and poked my knife into his abdomen, so that gases would not accumulate and cause heat which might be bad for the pelt, it was nearly dark. As I trotted across the open places, heading fast for my little camp, the grass gave forth a dry rustle of frost. I looked at the sky. The clouds had split as they drifted and stars showed beyond the murk. It meant I could skin my grizzly and be out of the valley before snow locked the place up for the winter.

It was good not to have to worry about it. It was better than good to have got my grizzly. But it was even more satisfying to think I hadn't smashed my ethics to get him.

THE END.

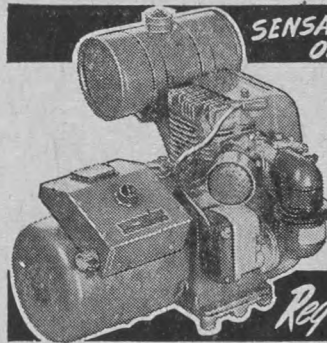


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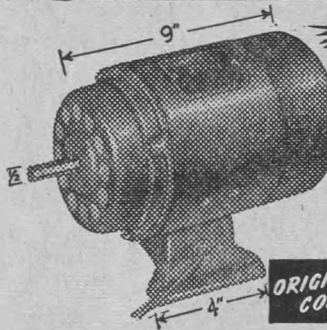
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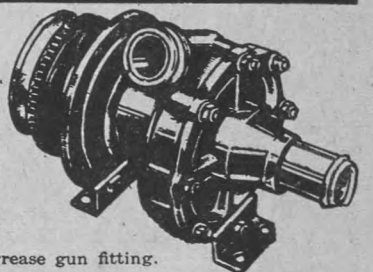
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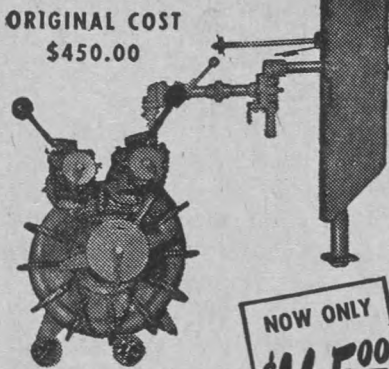
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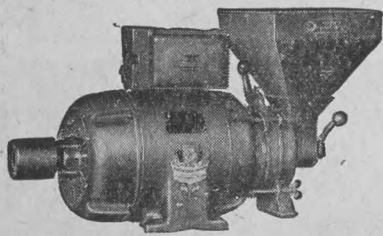


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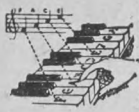
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HERE'S one thing we never use on our Concession, and that's a barometer. Weather is generally checked by intuition and common sense as they say. We also shy away from any of the meaningless signs such as the bark of trees and the way the leaves turn. We count on Jeb Martin's underwear to give us a fair idea of what's in store.

Jeb wears three suits of heavy underwear, of the itching, woollen type. He prides himself on buying only the heaviest and the purest woollen types. Jeb is careful about money. His only extravagance comes in regard to underwear. If a sales clerk can convince him of the merits of a certain type of underwear, he grows quite careless, and was known to buy a suit on one occasion without haggling over the price.

Jeb wears three suits in wintertime, and although he bulks up like a medieval warrior in a suit of chain mail, he claims to be comfortable on even the coldest day. His protection is augmented by three pairs of woollen socks which he has knitted especially by his sister, a maiden lady of uncertain years who retires to the house about the first of October and is not seen until the following spring.

During the late spring, Jeb takes his smock off while working and rolls up the sleeves of his sweater. On the twenty fourth of May, Jeb figuratively "shoots the sun" and if he is convinced that the warm weather will stay he dispenses with a sweater and a suit of underwear, retaining his smock and two vests and two suits of underwear. If he is not convinced that the weather is going to stay warm he will retain the third suit of underwear until the first week of June.

Some years he dispenses with the second suit of underwear on Dominion Day. He always attends the Dominion Day celebration in our town, and his suit is a tight fit if he wears both suits of underwear. Some years, depending upon his own forecast, he may retain the second suit until the wheat is fit to draw in.

We usually have a hot spell during the early part of September. When that breaks, Jeb puts back on the second suit of underwear. The third suit is replaced during the first chilly spell in October. In fact he always beats Mother Nature to the draw on that one. Jeb reasons that he would rather be warm on a hot day than get caught and be chilly on a cold day.

THE younger people can't seem to recognize Jeb's philosophy. That's understandable because they have been reared in an atmosphere that persists in the belief that the less clothes you wear, the healthier you'll be.

Underwear is an important subject however. Red flannels have been responsible for a lot of fortunes. Think of the writers and cartoonists, stuck for ideas for humorous items who manage to work up an angle about red flannels.

The wearing of so many suits of underwear grows to be a habit. You start as a boy when your parents

threaten and bluff you into a suit of heavy combinations. The fact that the underwear is too big for you, never seems to bother them. As they say, "You're growing into them."

The combinations are a nuisance, wrinkling up and making your stockings slide down. If you wear short trousers of the knickers type, you can usually depend on it that a large wrinkle will bulk up just below the knee causing a certain amount of embarrassment. If your parents have any money you can usually manage to persuade them to buy the fleece lined variety which is a lot less itchy, but bags at the knees.

For the first week or so, if you wear the itchy variety it seems as if thousands of tiny insects are busy tickling, as the woollen strands seek out the tender spots of your hide. They never fit of course, if you happen to have a mother who is good with a needle and you get a cut-down set of your father's woollen combinations.

As a boy you are forced to wear heavy underwear. Your parents persuade you to wear some underwear in the summer. The reason is obscure, but it's supposed to guard you against catching a cold. When you get to be a young man, you have acquired the habit and when you get to be middle-aged, you are so accustomed to one suit in the summertime that it doesn't keep you warm in the wintertime. Then you start wearing a second suit. In the case of Jeb Martin, by the time he got to be an old man, he had to wear three suits to keep himself warm.

Now, we have a distinct clash between two schools of thought. One group says the less clothes you wear the healthier you'll be. The other group maintains that you have to wear heavy underwear in order to protect yourself against colds.

It's an interesting controversy but I wish personally that the National Research Council would try experimental research to eliminate the "scratch" from heavy, woollen underwear.

Peace Tower

Continued from page 4

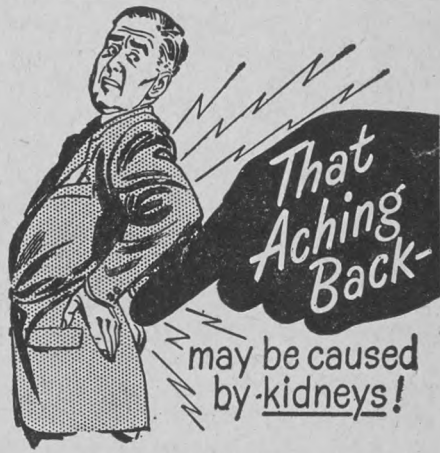
rumpus I caused down in these parts, I got an admission from Health and Welfare that they are now recommending the other jobs in the mouse nursing sector to older men, and they are going to make a point of hiring men who are somewhat older.

Meanwhile, I checked with Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of Health and Welfare, who was none too pleased about the pregnant mouse episode, and although he didn't say so to me, I got the idea he felt his department might have handled things better. Finally, he said he had given an order that from now on, the age limit for employing people would be raised from 35 to 45. The reason it could not be higher was that anybody hired after 45, would not have a chance between that age and 65 to accumulate any decent kind of pension.

"But we'll take them on till they are 45," said Mr. Martin.

So if nothing better came out of it, at least older men are to be given jobs, thanks to that pregnant mouse. It has also stirred up two government departments, made them aware that what they do is subject to public review as well as public criticism. It has too, I hope, got the farmers' dander up, and made them realize that too much emphasis has been placed on youth down here in Ottawa, and that the result of it is going to be that if we kick out people like old shoes when they are still young, we shall have to support a great many needlessly idle people.

Bobby Burns wrote an ode to a Field Mouse and stirred a lot of people. Maybe what I write about this mamma mouse will stir things up too.



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The Country Boy and Girl

Johnny Little's Valentine

by MARY E. GRANNAN

JOHNNY had made the valentine with his own hands. He had cut the fat red heart from a piece of red cardboard and it was everything that a red heart should be. It had the deepest of dents at the top, and the sharpest of points at the bottom. After Johnny was sure that it was just right, he had painted blue forget-me-nots around the edge of it, and in the middle he had printed these words: "Roses are red, violets are blue, I love you Annie, from 'Guess who'."

Johnny knew that Annie would know who "Guess who" was, because Annie knew who brought her a red apple to school everyday, and Annie knew who carried her book bag to school. Johnny showed the beautiful valentine that he had fashioned to his mother. She smiled down at Johnny and said, "It's lovely, Johnny. Do you want a stamp for posting it?"

"Oh," said Johnny, "I'm not going to post it in the mail, I'm going to post it in the valentine box in school, because I want to see Annie's face when she gets her valentine."

The next day was St. Valentine's Day, and Johnny got up bright and early. He always washed his face and hands first thing, when he got up, and as he looked in the mirror that morning, he cried out in dismay. His face was speckled with tiny red spots. "Mum, MUM," he cried, "come here quick, I'm all covered with red freckles."

Mother came running down the hall in answer, and when she looked at Johnny, she burst out laughing and said, "Oh Johnny, back into bed with you. You've got the chicken-pox."

"But mum," cried Johnny, "I just can't have chicken-pox today. It's St. Valentine's Day, and I have to post Annie's red heart in the valentine box."

"I'm sorry Johnny," mother answered, "but you can't give that red heart to Annie now. You don't want Annie to catch chicken-pox too, do you?"

"No," said Johnny. "But . . . but maybe mine aren't the catching kind of chicken-pox. Mum, I don't think they are. Mum, couldn't I sort of cover them up with your face cream and powder them over, so they wouldn't be catching?"

Mother shook her head. "Johnny, that wouldn't be fair. You have to stay in bed until your chicken-pox is better."

Johnny buried his face in the bed pillow. He didn't want to cry. Boys like Johnny didn't cry, but it was a great blow to him not to post that valentine. And then Mother had an idea. She left him, on tiptoe and went to the telephone. She told Annie's mother what had happened. "And," she said, "he spent hours making the valentine. So, I wonder if today after school, Annie would come to his window. He could show the valentine to her against the window-pane. That might help a little."

That afternoon, as Johnny lay in his bed with every one of his chicken-pox tickling him, he thought of the valen-

As you go gaily skating and sliding over the ponds these brisk February days do you ever wonder what is going on under the ice? Where have all those toads and frogs and many little insects gone who made their home in the pond during the summer? Did they leave the pond? No, they are still there now under the ice, for in any pond, lake or stream the water under the ice is warmer than freezing because the ice and snow acts as a blanket. If you were to cut a hole in the ice you could see what was going on. The fish are there but they stay in deeper water or rest quietly on the bottom of the pond or lake. They eat the snails, water fleas and worms that they can still find in the water. The newts and salamanders (sometimes called lizards), the frogs and turtles have buried themselves in the mud at the bottom of the pond and are waiting for spring.

The muskrat has made very special plans for winter. He gets his food of roots and stalks and salamanders and fish from the water under the ice, but because he cannot eat his food under water he builds many small eating houses of mud and moss on the surface of the ice over a hole in the ice. Trappers and most people call these eating houses "push-ups." When the muskrat has caught his dinner he swims to one of his "push-ups" to eat it.

Anne Sankey

tine box being emptied at school. He could see Annie going up to get her valentines, and he knew she would be wondering about why she was not getting one from him. He turned his face to the wall and cried. He couldn't help it.

At exactly four o'clock there was a tap at Johnny's window-pane. He heard it but he didn't turn around. The tap came again, and then he heard a voice. Annie's voice.

"Johnny," it said.

Johnny turned. Annie flattened her face against the window-pane, until her nose looked so funny that Johnny laughed. "Johnny," Annie said, "I know you have a valentine for me. Will you hold it against the window-pane so that I can see it?"

Johnny pulled it from under his pillow and held it against the glass. Annie read:

"Roses are red, violets are blue,
I love you Annie, from 'Guess who'."

Annie smiled. "I love you too, Johnny, and I'm going to slip my valentine underneath your door. Your mother will give it to you. Thank you for mine, Johnny." And Annie ran up on the porch.

Five minutes later, Johnny's mother brought him his valentine from Annie. It read:

"Johnny Little I like you lots,
I'm sorry you've got the chicken pops,
But when you're better and feeling fine
I want you for my valentine."

Johnny laughed, and turned over again. He was very happy. St. Valentine's Day was a nice day.

Table Manners

Of course you would like to know you are rated "tops" when it comes to the important matter of table conduct. For nowhere does one's good manners show up to better advantage than when seated with company around the dining table.

The secret, of course, lies in the measure of your unselfishness. With a glib attitude of "Yum, yum, this meal is good and I'm going to turn full steam ahead and get my share," you are simply catering to your stomach at the expense of your reputation.

Eating should be a time of friendly relaxation, and this calls for a fair amount of sharing, a sharing of time and topics, as well as toast. Then, too,

if you keep in mind the welfare of others and get in step with the tempo of the meal, you will find yourself free from any embarrassment even in the presence of the most distinguished company.

Sharing and thoughtfulness at the table will cover up a multitude of other petty annoyances such as careless handling of table tools, or gulping too loudly as you swallow an overdose

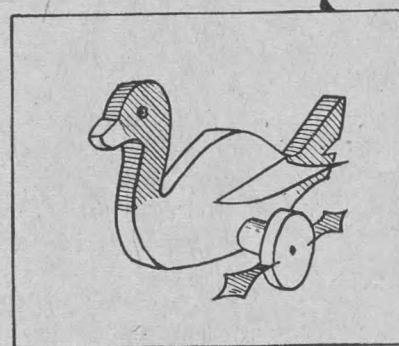
of water. So try to keep alert to the needs of your fellow diners. Pass the salt shaker down the line even though you don't care for salt yourself.

A nice thing to cultivate, too, is the regulation of your speed of eating to suit that of the others at the table. Don't rush through the roast chicken and then sit looking quite bored and offended because the dessert isn't ready. And even though no visitors are present, you can't afford to overlook the table courtesy of waiting for the others to finish before you leave the table.

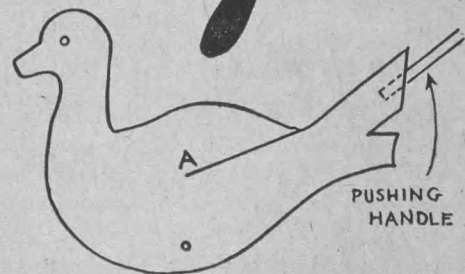
Best thought of all, if you have been unselfish about your meal, is the fact that you need not feel too embarrassed if you run into one of those annoying little table accidents. The upsetting of a glass of milk or the spilling of some gravy on the spotless new table cloth is not a sign of poor table manners. What counts is how you handle the situation. Don't make it worse by starting to fuss. Accidents will happen, you know. Simply say, "Oh! I'm sorry! This is very careless of me," and then go ahead to make what amends you can, and quietly.—Walter King.

MAKE YOUR OWN

Toys



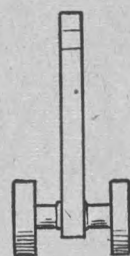
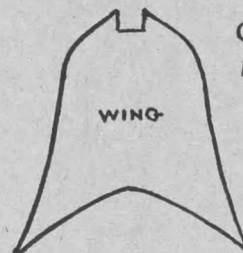
A WALKING DUCK



First CUT OUT THE BODY FROM $\frac{1}{2}$ " or $\frac{3}{4}$ " WOOD, IN THE PROPORTIONS SHOWN IN THE SKETCH. A GOOD SIZE IS $8\frac{1}{2}$ " HIGH BY 11" LONG. NOW MAKE A SAW SLOT MARKED "A".

Then

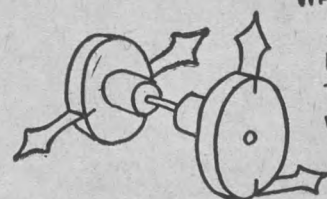
CUT THE WING OUT OF A PIECE OF STIFF PAPER OR LIGHT CARD AND SHOVE INTO THE SAW SLOT.



THE WHEELS CARRYING THE FEET ARE HELD OUT FROM THE BODY BY TWO HALF SPOOLS AS SHOWN.



THE WHEELS ARE CUT OR TURNED FROM HALF INCH THICK WOOD, $2\frac{3}{4}$ " DIAMETER. 2 SAW SLOTS $\frac{1}{2}$ " DEEP SHOULD BE MADE IN EACH WHEEL.



WHEN THE WHEELS ARE ASSEMBLED MAKE SURE THAT THE SLOTS ON ONE WHEEL ARE AT RIGHT-ANGLES TO THE OTHER

THE FOUR FEET ARE CUT FROM RUBBER OR OIL CLOTH AND STUCK INTO THE WHEEL SLOTS.

NOTE. THE WHEELS MUST FIT TIGHT ON THE AXLE. IN THIS CASE CLOTHES HANGER WIRE WAS USED.

Paint DUCK GREEN & WHITE. BILL YELLOW.
—By Walter Wedlock.

THE *Country* GUIDE

with which is incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME
Serving the farmers of Western Canada Since 1882

VOL. LXVIII WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY, 1949 No. 2

Oklahoma Plus

In past times American consumers used to complain of the policy of "Pittsburgh plus" enforced by steel corporations in that country. Western users of steel were charged a price which equalled the Pittsburgh price plus freight to the point of delivery. It mattered not if the steel originated in Minnesota mines, was freighted cheaply down Lake Michigan to be processed at Chicago, and sent to a nearby point in the state of its origin. The price to the Minnesota purchaser was still the same as though the ore had been shipped to Pittsburgh and the product railed half way back across the continent.

Albertans claim to have discovered an "Oklahoma plus." It is alleged by consumers that the price of their tractor fuel and oil is based on the price of crude oil in Oklahoma plus freight to the point of consumption in that province. In past times such a discovery would not have been upsetting. But new wells are popping with unfailing regularity in that province, and Alberta farmers cannot understand why they should pay Oklahoma plus on the growing volume of the local product.

Gas and oil are becoming increasing items in the cost of grain production. Grain prices are coming down while oil prices are going up, in spite of the fact that near the end of the year the United States reached a record production of 5,600,000 barrels daily. Texas allowables were promptly cut ten per cent. The official explanation given was to save the United States from "swimming in oil." These facts do not seem to add up and some farmers are calling for investigation and appropriate action from the Social Credit government at Edmonton.

Britain's Food Imports

Trade planning information released in Britain last month emphasizes Canada's interest in the early recovery of that country and the resumption of multilateral trading and currency convertibility.

On January 14 the Anglo-Polish trade treaty was announced. This commits Britain to take £300 million in Polish products during the next five years. The commodities involved are mostly foodstuffs, mainly bacon and eggs. The concurrent decline in Canadian egg prices is directly connected with the Polish treaty. Because Britain was able to obtain its shell eggs for sterling elsewhere she was able to leave them out of the 1949 Canadian contract. At the time of writing a similar treaty is being negotiated between Britain and Yugoslavia. It is being held up only by the difficulty on agreeing on a figure to cover British properties in that country expropriated since the end of hostilities. The Economist forecasts a 1949 increase of food imports into Britain from Denmark and Hungary.

During 1948 Britain imported 764,000 metric tons of grain from Russia. This includes, in Canadian equivalents, 22 million bushels of barley, 7,400,000 bushels of corn, and 7,160,000 bushels of oats. The quantity suggested for 1949 for all coarse grains is 1,500,000 metric tons, practically double the 1948 imports. Whether this total will be reached depends largely on prices. Last year's prices were not divulged, yet they are known to have been substantially higher than Chicago. Moreover the prices increased while they were going down on the American market. In other words, Britain is paying a premium for Russian grain because it does not require scarce dollars for the transaction.

During December the British four-year plan was submitted for integration with those of the other Marshall Plan countries. It reveals that the Attlee

government has set a high target for British agriculture in the coming period. Bread grains are to be raised from the 1947-48 average of 1,716,000 metric tons to 2,764,000 by 1952; coarse grains from 4,585,000 to 5,644,000 metric tons.

It is a matter of deep concern to Canadians to see substantial inroads into the British market by our trade rivals, but the remedy is not simple. The British export drive has not yet reached the level where large quantities of goods of the right categories can be exchanged for Canadian food products. The unfreezing of the Canadian loan at the rate of \$10 million a month is good as far as it goes, but does not bulk large in a market which bought \$409 million in the last pre-war year, when prices were much lower, and could absorb much larger quantities today, but for balance of payment difficulties.

Whatever the answer may be for Canadians it is certainly not a slackening of production. There are grave doubts as to Britain's ability to reach the agricultural targets set for 1952. The bilateral treaties by which she hopes to obtain continental food rest on the assumption of industrial production increases that may not be attained by her strained labor force. The world's margin of food is perilously slender. Experts have declared that one North American crop failure would be a disaster of the first magnitude. The farmers of Canada will meet any moral responsibility that may rest upon them as they have done in the past regardless of pecuniary reward. In the years before the war economists discovered that it was possible to export unemployment. They may be in the process of discovering that it is possible to export austerity.

Debtors And Creditors

President Truman's views on international trade and reconstruction, as expressed in his inaugural address, are comforting, as far as they go. But generous and far-sighted as American aid has been, there are increasing signs that the United States position as the world's greatest creditor will require something beyond provision of E.R.P. funds till 1952.

The Interim report released by the Organization for European Economic Co-operation in Paris indicates that the first rosy estimates of the sufficiency of the Marshall Plan are giving way to sober doubts. The 19 governments which met at Paris, upon Gen. Marshall's suggestion, to formulate their requirements, had to estimate what they could do for themselves as a first step. Undoubtedly, in order to bolster American confidence they put their best foot forward. Added together they counted on an increase of 30 per cent over pre-war level in industrial production, and 15 per cent increase in agricultural production. These estimates rest on assumptions that cannot now be accepted.

The governments themselves forecast a deficit of a billion dollars in their trading account for 1952, even if they achieve the level of exports which they have planned. That they will accomplish this expansion the interim report doubts. Western Europe assumes among other things that it will be able to raise its exports to South America by a billion dollars, a step which would seem to entail capturing half the United States markets on the South American continent. Similarly exports to the United States from western Europe would need to rise to \$2.1 billion, as against a 1938 total of \$1.5 billion. It is true that the Americans are importing 50 per cent more than they did in 1938, but they are not getting the increase from Europe. On the contrary, imports from western Europe in that period actually fell from 23 per cent of the American total to 13 per cent.

The O.E.E.C. report concludes that European recovery can be accomplished, but not in the short time allowed in the Marshall Plan. Price increases, local crop failures, the cost of the air lift and the cost of rearmament have all played their part in putting further out of reach a goal which may have been too optimistic to begin with.

These conclusions will perhaps arouse some indignation and regret among the Americans, who were assured at the outset that \$20 billion spread

over four years would float the European economy again. But it may lead to an examination of their own changed position as a creditor nation. In the first post-war year the U.S. had a balance of exports over imports of \$8 billion. Countries obtaining these exports were in the position of having to settle their accounts by the transfer of assets, gold or securities, or by obtaining loans or grants. In the succeeding years the American export surplus has grown and the volume of transferable assets among that country's debtors has diminished. Uncle Sam has expressed his disinclination to play the rich relative indefinitely. If he wishes to reduce the volume of grants and loans he will have to look at the other side of the equation. He must cut down or wipe out the export surplus. He must be content to buy more from western Europe, and sell less, not only to Europe, but to those countries who may procure their requirements from Europe's recovering production. He may have to give thought to substantial foreign investment of private capital as suggested in Winnipeg by Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden. A creditor must allow his debtors to earn money with which to repay their debts if their dealings are to remain on a normal level. It may be more necessary to allow him the freedom to do so than to hand him charity, no matter how munificent.

And while we are handing out this gratuitous advice to Uncle Sam, we might accept some of it for ourselves. Canada's position is mid-way between the rich Colossus and his debtors. While we have a trading deficit with the U.S., we have a favorable balance with the rest of the world. As long as multilateral trade continues to limp along, Canada must sell more to the U.S. and be willing to accept more European goods for use at home as and when they become available.

P.S.V. Licensing

The Farmers' Union convention at Calgary was presented with a resolution opposing the provincial government's policy of granting public service licenses to trucks operated by railways, or companies which were in fact their subsidiaries. The fear behind this protest is that by this means the railways may obtain a virtual monopoly over transportation within the province. Healthy competition between trucks and railways has a salutary effect on local rates. Railway dominated trucking companies would certainly be an influence for higher rates. If public policy in Canada refuses to allow the railways to engage in trucking, it would be in line with numerous American decisions under the Sherman anti-trust law which forbids vertical expansion to nation-wide organizations holding a commanding position in their own field.

Further enquiry brings out the information that the resolution presented at Calgary was suggested to the Farmers' Union by the Alberta Transport Association, the provincial organization of the commercial truckers. This does not in any way invalidate the argument, but it tempts the farmers who are invited to pull the chestnuts out of the fire to turn the spotlight on the truckers themselves.

Such an examination discloses that certain truckers are now accepting bonuses from packing plants for stock delivered direct to abattoirs. This apparently innocent practice leads truckers to divert stock from stockyards in order to swell their bonus. If the stock owner insists on delivery to a public market, the trucker may refuse to transport the consignment. He simply asserts that he is not going to the stockyards that day. The stock owner must await his convenience, frequently to his own loss.

It requires no persuasion to make farmers realize that it is to their advantage to have a maximum movement of livestock pass through the public markets, where all the forces of supply and demand may be brought to bear on the making of a fair price. True at any time of the year, it is particularly true in those seasons when the run is light and prices are relatively high.

Public utility boards, and the governments behind them would do well to institute vigorous action forcing public service vehicles to live up to the requirements of public service without waiting for a formal request from farm organizations.

ANIMAL INSTINCT

Some remarkable instances which show how well northern wild life recognizes "the locks of the approaching storm."

by JOHN PATRICK GILLESE

ODD homing characteristics of wild life that I took for granted while growing up in the bush country struck my mind with new impact while re-visiting the north a year ago.

One January morning, when the trees were lacy with hoarfrost, we rose to find about fifty prairie chickens feeding about the yard and perched on top of the barn and greenfeed stacks. They were not alarmed as the men walked about from the barn to the pig-pen doing chores, and when approached to within about twenty yards, they flew up, chortling without fear, to the surrounding trees and shrubs.

"There's going to be a blizzard, sure," said the housewife sagely, wise from experience. For every child going to school in the bush country sees the birds, on a still winter's morning, sitting as if frozen to the bare poplar limbs around every neighbor's yard. And though "treeing" is something a prairie chicken normally dislikes, I notice the bush around northern villages covered with the birds—always about 24 hours before a storm.

OLDER farmers, used to this odd habit, never hunt prairie chickens in the fall. They wait till the birds appear about their yard, then, from the doorway, pick off as many as they need, with a .22. Very rarely do the other birds move, though normally the prairie chicken is one of the hardest birds to hunt, his speed and wariness being exceeded only by the alert Hungarian partridge.

The question is: Why does a bird who shuns civilization and trees or perches of any kind behave in such a manner before a cold snap? It is obvious that they can sense the forthcoming change in the weather, and the only reasonable answer would be that they are anxious to find as much food as they can to tide them through the cold snap. When they have fed, they return to the muskegs and stubble fields. A day later, when the cold snap sets in, you will find them burrowed in the snowdrifts.

The Hungarian partridge will do the same thing, except that this wily game bird will stay around the pig pens and granaries, usually further away from the house, and they never roost in the bushes or on tops of buildings. The ruffled grouse, just as able to sense the cold snap approaching, is not so fussy about barnyard feed. Generally this bird will hightail for the roadsides where millions of rose "hips" left from the summer's crop of wild roses, hang in red clusters above the snow. There the grouse feeds frantically. When he is through, he forsakes his normal haunts of spruce and willow and makes for the ravines on the south slopes of hills. I once counted over seventy ruffled grouse taking shelter in a crevice about a hundred yards long and not more than a foot wide, left by a little creek tumbling down the hills in the spring break-up. Nor will these birds desert that shelter, unless you walk right on top of them. Any marksman could pick

the whole flock off. All they are concerned with is the forthcoming storm.

The pheasant, which has not yet worked much farther north than Edmonton, prefers getting his grain in the barnyard rather than out in the cherry copses and, like the prairie chicken, seems to forget all fears of man when a blizzard is on its way.

Game birds are not the only creatures of the wild able to sense climatic changes. Deer herds move down from the barren hills and wind-swept ridges into the thicker willow brakes of the flats and valleys. Great herds of elk, as if impelled by the same urge possessing their feathered friends, will work in close to green feed stacks, where they sometimes destroy so much of the farmers' feed supply that provincial game officers are forced to go out and destroy the herds. Always the motivating urge seems to be feed, which is harder to get when it's storming.

The same urge, or possibly the killer instinct, strikes the wolf and coyote packs at the same time. Never in the white man's history of Alberta have the wolf packs been as numerous as this year, ranging to within three or four miles of villages. Coyotes are even more numerous (because the value of their fur has dropped to nothing) and they are playing havoc with sheep and poultry.

As surely as the housewife knew the nearness of prairie chickens meant rough weather ahead, the old farmer knows when he hears the coyotes howling on top of his straw stack that a change in the weather is near, and they are calling their comrades to a warmer bed for the night.

IF there is one animal above all others that loves a man-made dwelling, it is the porcupine. When old bush-country bachelors die off and homesteaders move away, a stray porcupine will soon claim possession of the farm home. He prefers either the attic or the cellar, unless too many skunks get into the cellar, when he will definitely, and with dignity, move upstairs. Nine times out of ten, the porcupine moves into these abandoned dwellings during some particularly cold period of the winter, and there he stays till the house falls in or until some itinerant hunter comes along and shoots him.

On and about one such abandoned dwelling, situated a stone's throw from a small river, I once trapped an entire family of weasels, seven skunks twenty-two ordinary, and one albino, muskrats (the latter had a well-beaten path from the cellar to the river; and from the surrounding fields, they dragged in immense quantities of grain to their storehouse). On top of that, at least four generations of red squirrels had laid claim to the attic. The porcupine, who was probably the first to take possession of the old cabin, had been forced, by the increasing horde of tenants, to move his nest from the cellar to the attic and then downstairs to a cold and dim north room which none of the other residents appeared to want.

QUAKER OATS HELPS GROW

"Stars of the Future"

Doctors say the more often youngsters eat a good oatmeal breakfast, the better they grow



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QUAKER OATS

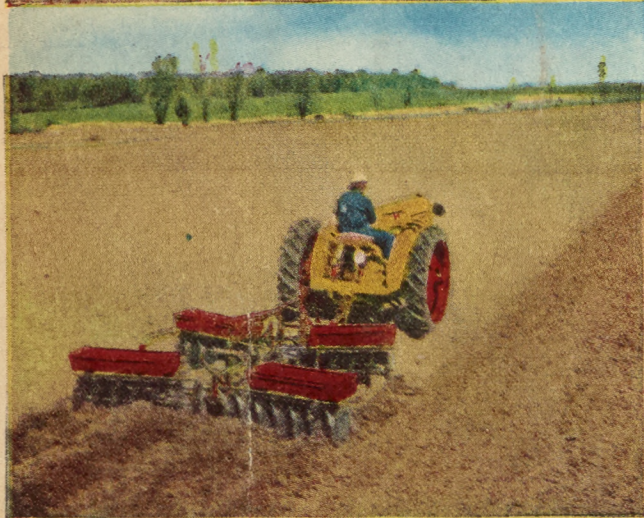
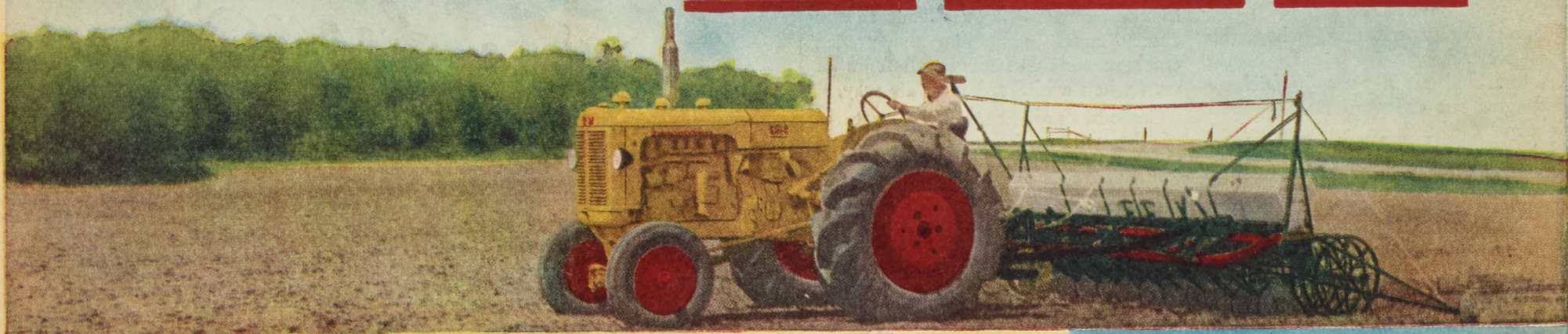


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UNI-MATIC POWER

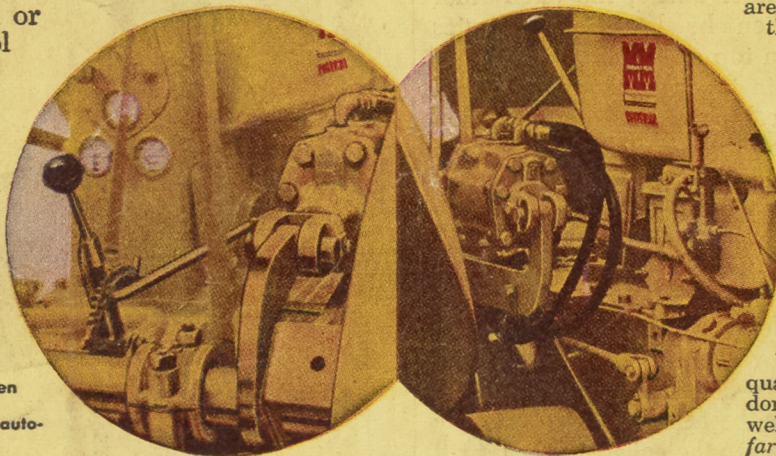
CAN GET MORE WORK DONE EVERY HOUR FOR YOU

MM's new hydraulic control mechanism gives the operator finger-tip control of tractor-mounted or pull-behind implements. A touch on the control lever raises or lowers farm implements automatically, permits pre-selecting or changing tool depth or height of cut. Uni-Matic Power utilizes tested safety features for both operator and machines, frees operator's hands and feet for greater safety. Control lever is easy to reach, is simple to use, saves time and effort.

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- ★ Double-acting jack gives power both up and down from any given position.
- ★ Automatic power-control device raises tools to desired position automatically, returns control to neutral after operator has tripped lever.

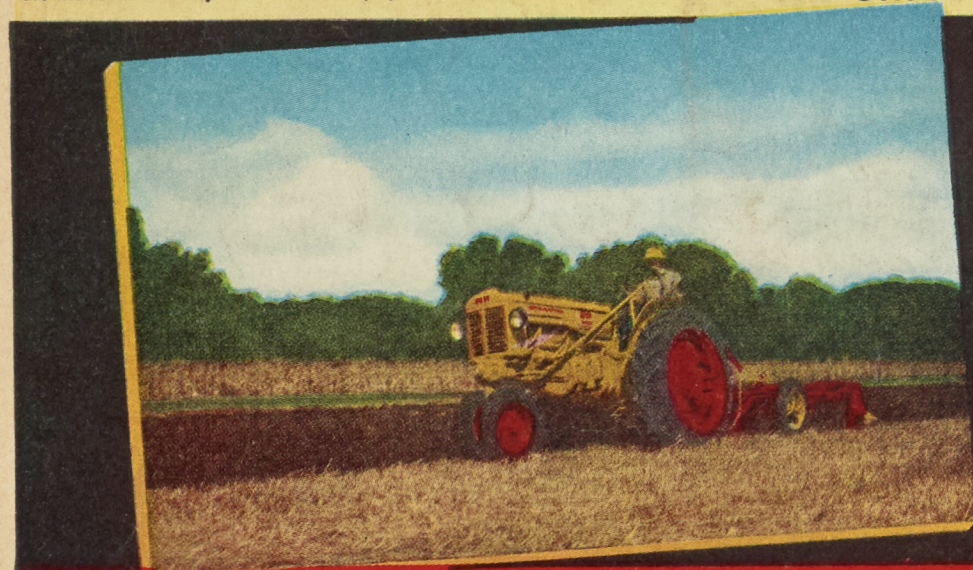
Uni-Matic Power is optional on MM's Z, U, R and G Visionlined tractors.



UNI-MATIC POWER

YOU CAN HELP STABILIZE PEACE BY STABILIZING THE ECONOMY OF A NATION

Products of the farm will always play an indispensable part in promoting the prosperity of a nation. Food, fiber, and oils are basic and essential needs of man and industry. The nation that produces these in quantity and of the right quality is building a firm foundation for the kind of prosperity that is the hope of mankind—prosperity not only within its own borders but among nations that are still in need of these products. Many people are willing to exchange what they produce for those urgently needed products that American farmers can furnish abundantly. Thanks to modern machines and modern methods of farming, our farmers are playing a leading role in solving present world problems. Modern machines and modern farming methods increase the yields and provide the foodstuffs to make people everywhere mentally alert and physically fit so that they can contribute their full share to the economic welfare of their nation. Lacking food, fiber and oils, man faces physical want and industry suffers. Only by providing quality products of the soil in sufficient quantity can the blessings of peace be fully secured and freedom and free enterprise become a stabilizing influence for the welfare of all mankind. *This is the challenge that progressive farmers must meet with modern methods and modern machines . . . tools for the building of a better tomorrow.*



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